FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CNEA CHAIRMAN DENIES NUCLEAR BOMB MANUFACTURE

PY121223 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0012 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (DYN) -- Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], denied today that Argentina may have an "unsophisticated and rudimentary" nuclear bomb ready by the end of this year, but he confirmed that the country already has the capacity to produce plutonium on a pilot level and that it is erecting a larger plant near Buenos Aires.

Castro Madero denied that the four tons of uranium which the Soviet Union enriched for Argentina will have any military use, and affirmed that the CNEA "intends to present itself as an exporter of nuclear technology on the Latin American market."

Making declarations in the "Magdalena and the News" radio program, the CNEA chairman explained the characteristics of the Argentine nuclear program in view of an article published in THE ECONOMIST of London commenting on the possibilities of military nuclear developments in Argentina.

Madero said that "Argentina has greatly advanced in nuclear technology, but only for peaceful purposes, and the previously mentioned article constitutes a recognition by the foreign press, but is completely wrong in its assertion that Argentina is making strides in bomb manufacturing."

He confirmed that Argentina does have the capacity to reprocess small amounts of plutonium on a pilot level, and that it is building a larger plant near Buenos Aires, adding that "This is another phase of the fuel cycle permitting the recovery of elements which constitute yet another energy source for the generation of electricity."

Madero indicated that "such an element can be utilized to manufacture a bomb, but that does not mean that it cannot be utilized for peaceful purposes." He said that this step is in line with the policy being implemented by the CNEA: "Attaining total independence in the fuel cycle and mastering it for peaceful ends."

Madero supported the line followed by the CNEA by pointing out that the plutonium-natural uranium mix lowers the cost of nuclear generation of electricity, and that "the demand for plutonium will rise in the world as breeder reactors come into operation, and so Argentina can then take advantage of the commercial value of plutonium."

In that regard, Madero announced that "Argentina intends to present itself on the Latin American market as an exporter of nuclear technology." He then emphasized that "Argentina is building a reprocessing plant in order to maximize and optimize the use of its own energy sources, and to do so in total independence," because "countries possessing nuclear technology refuse to transfer it to developing countries."

The CNEA chairman denied that the four tons of uranium which the Soviet Union enriched for Argentina are intended for military purposes, adding that "this enriched uranium is not suitable for manufacturing a nuclear weapon; rather, it is for use in irradiation and radioisotope-yielding reactors, or for supplying the reactor Peru owns [under an agreement with Argentina]."

Madero noted that we had to call upon the Soviet Union "because the United States refuses to supply us with nuclear material because Argentina is not a member of the NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty], and so we had to go to other markets."

Regarding the international safeguards imposed by some countries that sell nuclear technology and the fact that Argentina opposes such inspections, Madero affirmed that since Argentina is not a signatory of the NPT, it is not obliged to accept inspection of manufacturing plants which have been built in there entirety by national efforts with no outside assistance whatsoever."

Madero concluded by saying that it should be clearly understood that whenever outside technical assistance is requested, Argentina offers to accept international control over the installations built with outside help."

ARMY COMMANDER CONFIRMS GALTIERI'S ARREST

PY232240 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1932 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 13 Apr (DYN) -- Army Commander in Chief Gen Cristino Nicolaides this afternoon confirmed that former President Leopoldo Galtieri is serving his arrest at Campo de Mayo, but noted that his arrest will not last 60 days.

Nicolaides declined to state how long Galtieri will be under arrest and denied the existence of a military-union pact.

10TH AIR BRIGADE TO HAVE DAGGER, MIRAGE PLANES

PY121511 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1243 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Apr (NA) -- Reliable sources have reported that the 10th Air Brigade headquartered in Rio Gallegos, created at the end of 1982, will begin operations by the end of this year. The new unit will be equipped with Israeli-made Dagger, French Mirage and Skyhawk A-4-B planes. The Dagger planes that this unit will get are part of the shipment which recently arrived in Argentina. The Daggers of this shipment will be assigned to Tandil and Villa Reynold units in Buenos Aires and San Luis Provinces respectively.

The sources admitted that a large quantity of ammunition and arms was received together with the recent shipment of Daggers. The sources ruled out, however, that this materiel is part of the "arms race" in which Argentina has suportedly engaged after the Malvinas war, and explained that the materiel was received as part of a "preestablished plan to reequip the Air Force."

It was also reported that the Air Force is keeping in touch with U.S. suppliers although it has been impossible to ascertain whether the talks have to do with arms or with some other type of equipment such as radar and communications components.

In this regard, it is known that an Air Force mission recently travelled to Chicago, although the objectives and the results of the mission are unknown. It was also disclosed that another delegation headed by Maj Gen Jose Maria Insua toured several nations a few weeks ago.

It was recalled that the Dagger planes, recently received unassembled in containers, have considerable attack effectiveness.

The unloading of the Daggers in containers was apparently made without any undue deployment of security measures to avoid upsetting the people, as happened recently when traffic between the port of Buenos Aires and Aeroparque Metropolitian-Airport was closed to facilitate the transport of the previous shipment of planes.

It has been indicated that the 12 Mirage planes stationed in Jose C. Paz in Buenos Aires Province are assigned to protect the area between Campana and La Plata, as well as the urban area of Greater Buenos Aires.

Meanwhile, the Daggers in Villa Reynolds are supposed to protect the central part of the western border, and it is believed that it would take them just 3 minutes to react to an attack on Argentina.

ECONOMY MINISTER DENIES PESO DEVALUATION

PY131852 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Economy Minister Wehbe categorically denied reports of an alleged devaluation of the Argentine peso by terming them sheer nonsense. Wehbe stated that international publications consider that our current exchange rate is appropriate.

Wehbe stated that the IMF delegation that will visit Argentina between today and Monday was invited by the Argentine Government. Wehbe said that we asked the IMF to supervise our compliance with the agreement so that the IMF would advance disbursement of the second portion of the loan.

FOREIGN MINISTER AGUIRRE LANARI ON GROUP OF 77

PY131256 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Interview granted by Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari to Roberto Maidana at San Martin Palace in Buenos Aires on 12 April -- recorded]

[Text] [Maidana] There was a meeting at the Foreign Ministry today. On this occasion, Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari handed over documents of the Group of 77 to the countries that are not members of this group but will be attending the UNCTAD meeting in Belgrade. This was the interview with the foreign minister.

[Begin recording] [Question] Aguirre Lanari, can you give us a report on the meeting of the Group 77? This could take a long time, but could you give us a brief report on the meeting?

[Answer] Well, summarizing it, the meeting was promising, very satisfactory for our country and very satisfactory as far as achieving the goals set for the conference. I believe that, putting aside the practical or formal aspects of organizing the meeting -- which according to the delegations was quite satisfactory -- we have the double satisfaction of a successful conference that made specific proposals for the first time in this kind of meeting of the Group of 77, and also success in terms of bilateral matters between our country and many of the visiting countries whose delegates decided to extend their stay to continue their contacts.

An example of this is the agreement we signed with Algeria today.

This is a very interesting agreement because our country finds a promising market and Algeria demonstrates an authentic and sincere interest in buying some Argentine products, including our technology, which I believe can really be very useful for cooperation with that country.

[Question] The results of this meeting will be submitted to the UNCTAD conference on 6 June in the Yugoslav capital. We can count on your presence there, but is there any confirmation of President Bignone's presence at that meeting?

[Answer] Naturally, President Bignone is the one who has the final word. I would like to say, however, that President Bignone has been officially invited by the Group of 77 to submit the specific proposals approved in Buenos Aires.

[Question] In conclusion, getting away from this subject, Arnaldo Listre and Julio Barberis have been appointed members of the special mission to the papal mediation of the southern conflict with Chile. Does this have a special meaning?

[Answer] Of course, they are going to cooperate with the head of the mission, General Echeverry Boneo. They have the complete confidence of our government. This appointment is significant. It shows our country's interest in this matter, a matter which is undoubtedly important to Chile and Argentina. [end recording]

LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM OPENS MEETING

PY112335 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1516 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 11 Apr (DYN) -- The Latin American Economic System, (SELA), experts began a 2-day meeting today to analyze relations between Latin America and the EEC. Experts representing 26 Latin American countries gathering at the General San Martin Cultural Center are to examine the conditions required to resume dialogue between SELA and the EEC and to decide what minimum prerequisites are necessary for a dialogue to result in a program of action.

The sessions were opened by Felix Pena, under secretary of international economic relations of the Foreign Ministry, who reviewed relations between Latin America and the EEC.

Meeting Ends, Document Approved

PY131855 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] The first meeting of SELA's government experts ended after midnight. The meeting approved a document with recommendations to be submitted to the ninth meeting of the SELA council to be held in Caracas in September. The document, a copy of which will be given to the press, was drawn up on the basis of a previous report submitted to SELA's Permanent Secretariat, recommendations made by some of the representatives of the 26 countries that participated in the meeting, and of other verbal or written reports made by SELA experts and representatives of the delegations.

The document proposes to continue to object to some of the measures adopted by the European Community against Latin America in the past 20 years, particularly to the measures involving coercion implemented against Argentina in 1982.

The government experts urged SELA's council to adopt basic measures for future dialogue with the European Community.

GDR TRADE DELEGATION ON WEEK-LONG VISIT

PY121319 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0155 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Apr (TELAM) -- Commerce Secretary Alberto Noguera met this afternoon with GDR Heavy Industry Deputy Minister Wolfgang Keil, who is heading a mission now in Argentina to promote bilateral trade relations. The visitors will meet with various officials in the economic area, and plans call for the delegation leader and Commerce Secretary Noguera to sign a memorandum stating the most important aspects of the negotiations.

The delegation will stay in Argentine until 17 April, a full week during which its members will follow a busy agenda, including a visit with Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe.

APPOINTMENTS TO SPECIAL MISSION TO HOLY SEE

PY121315 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2214 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Apr (TELAM) -- The executive branch has appointed Ambassadors Arnoldo Manuel Listre and Julio Alberto Barberis as advisors to the Argentine special mission to the Holy See in the negotiations with Chile over the Beagle Channel. The appointments were made through decree number 808, which in its preamble notes that the importance of the question for our country makes it necessary for the special Argentine mission to the Holy See in the negotiations with Chile over the Beagle Channel to have as much advice as possible. The decree also states that the new assignments given to Ambassadors Listre and Barberis are to be carried out along with their current functions as foreign policy director and ambassador to the Netherlands, respectively.

COMMUNIST PARTY TO HOLD RALLY 22 APRIL

PY140340 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1811 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 13 Apr (NA) -- The Communist Party [PC] will spend approximately 6 billion pesos, approxmiately $73,000, to organize and advertise a rally it will hold on Friday, 22 April, at Rivadavia Park, it was learned from political sources. The sources also gave NA the list of candidates who will be nominated by the PC for the various posts, in addition to the Rubens Iscaro-Irene Rodriguez presidential slate. The sources also reported that the following will be candidates for national deputies for the federal capital: Fernando Nadra, Hector Agosti, Enrique Salvi, Jose Antonio Diaz, Fanny Edelman and Juan Carlos Cominguez.

The PC slate for the Buenos Aires gubernatorial seat will be Jesus Mira - Luis Viaggio and the list of candidates for national senators for Buenos Aires Province will be led by Pedro Tadeoli and Jose Maria Garcia. The PC slates for the other provincial governments are as follows: Juan Sorbellini-Antonia Mirabello, Santa Fe; Ricardo Clementi-Miguel Contreras, Jr., Cordoba; Ruben Yunes-Aurelio Diaz, Chaco; Horacio Storni-Mario Carbajal, San Juan; Raul Bellman, Amilcar Reali, Entre Rios; Galo Oviedo-Luis Rossi, Chubut; and Leon Liftchitz-Octavio Zapata, Corrientes.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES NATION ON 31ST ANNIVERSARY

PY102035 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 2113 GMT 9 Apr 83

[Speech to the nation by President Hernan Siles Zuazo from the San Francisco Plaza in La Paz on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the 1952 revolution -- live]

[Excerpts] The history of the resistance against Garcia Meza's government is still fresh in the minds of Bolivians, and it has served our people in gaining the admiration and respect of the peoples who love dignity and freedom above all else. This respect, fellow countrymen, is due to your everyday sacrifice in the struggle for freedom, democracy and well-being with social justice. [chants]

International opinion has testified how Bolivians of all social classes have struggled for human rights, for the recovery of their institutions and for the recognition of the institutional government of 1980.

We are proud of this struggle, because the recovery of Bolivian democracy is not only in the interest of the country, but it has also stimulated the struggle of other peoples who are also seeking their sovereignty and their dignity. [chants]

We must not forget that the people were absent from the seat of power for 18 years and that the counterrevolution has done everything it can to stop the recovery of democracy and it has organized the administration to suit its own ends.

To corrupt an administration is to weaken the state and to take away from the people the instrument for people's participation, because without this participation it is not possible to achieve a firm political, economic and social leadership that will be a guarantee for the population and that will help it to defeat colonialism.

The current and main challenge is that of overcoming the crisis by displacing the models implemented by the dictatorships, which are backward models that are reflected in a hungry people who are fighting for their democracy in the midst of inflation, skyscrapers, luxury automobiles and mansions and 5-star hotels.

What has happened to the national effort? What about the (?sweat) of the peasant and of hard-earned money? Where are the beneficiaries of the enormous external debt that we have to pay, when we barely have enough to eat? [applause, cheers and chants]

At this point I want to point out a highly significant detail regarding the squandering that has been going on. During the past 12 years, more than 1,200 feasibility studies have been carried out and none of them are a benefit for the nation. The sum of $280 million has been spent on those studies.

The difficulties that have to be faced in order to consolidate democracy, in the midst of an unprecedented crisis, are so great that the brutes [words indistinct] that generated it are now invoking, with an unknown daring, the democracy that they denied others. These same people who stomped on freedom never had the (?intelligence) to administer the resources of the state. [applause] and they even have the boldness to recommend their economic plans, believing that the people are stupid and have no memory.

This is why we have to remind these people, who still dare to lift their voices to the nation, about some things that have happened in the past.

Before the current constitutional government took office, inflation had risen to dramatic figures. Consumer prices prior to October 1982 were rising between 18 and 20 percent per month. During those same months, accumulated inflation amounted to approximately 200 percent. This scourge was shouldered mainly by the working class, and even more so by the unemployed, seriously affecting the normal diet of a greater part of the population.

The vertical fall of production and the happy-go-lucky economic policy of the previous years perfectly explain this serious decline. But as of November 1982, with the implementation of a new economic policy, the mad inflationary rhythm was reduced.

Between 1 November 1982 and 31 March 1983, prices increased 50 percent, that is, with a monthly rate lower than 10 percent. All this has been achieved thanks to the work and sacrifice of the Bolivian people. [applause and shouts]

Fellow countrymen, the situation we are going through now will be overcome only if we face it with the same decisiveness and participation of all the people, and with the revolutionary spirit of 1952 -- 31 years ago now. Because if we do not change the institutional structures, distorted by 18 years of dictatorships, nothing will be fundamentally changed.

We could have the country indebted for approximately $4 billion, but that would not serve any purpose. That would not help at all because the only ones who would benefit would be those who have used up most of the current foreign debt for their own interests.

The same thing is happening with a problem which is not usually discussed but which is equally serious: internal debt. As in 1952, only the workers have understood the seriousness of the situation. Thus our fellow citizens from San Jose and other districts included in the democratic reorganization process have already begun contributing their wages. They are aware that the worst enemy is the crisis and those who are behind it aggravating it, such as those who speculate with the parallel dollar, the drug traffickers and those who hoard staples, and those sectors which want to continue profiting while the majority of the people are losing. [shouts and applause]

The economic distortion has reached a privileged labor sector, which has a much higher salary than the average, and has the intention of keeping this privilege by using pressure tactics that the people will not tolerate.

Why don't the leaders of this sector express the same interest in recovering the loans granted to certain persons or private institutions more easily than others? Is it because the dictatorships have left behind a special clique of interests which is preventing banks from collecting debts when they are due? This is a question put by the people.

A war economy is not compatible with privileges. The current sacrifices, and those to be made, must be shared by all proportionately. Those who intend to live well at the expense of those who live poorly not only exhibit egocentrism, but are ignorant of the current political and social situation.

What do we need a political democracy for if it is not accompanied by an economic democracy? [shouts and applause] The national revolution can continue its course through a pluralist democratic process. But to achieve this goal we need the effort of all men who believe in our fatherland and who share our patriotic feelings.

The confrontation today, like yesterday, will be between this nation and the colonialists. And this confrontation will be even bigger because there are other nations that have awakened and are fighting for their sovereignty and for their national affirmation against colonialism. We express our firm solidarity with those nations that are struggling for freedom and democracy. [shouts and applause]

We are ready to continue advancing, regardless of what might happen. The experience of the Bolivian people's struggle, their historical feelings and their political awareness have generated a program for the current stage of the revolution which will allow them to consolidate the alliance of the exploited masses and which will overcome the current difficulties.

Different from the repressive and death-dealing dictatorships, which are subordinated to imperialism, we base our government and our programs on the interpretation of the people's aspirations, on their current problems and on the on-going correction of errors we might make.

We are also encouraged by the desire to reorganize and expand the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] so as to preserve for the Bolivian people a sound political front since there is no other valid alternative at this time. The UDP is an alliance of political parties with different but not antagonistic interests, because these parties, with the support of the peasants, miners and working masses, shared with a brotherly spirit an historical enlightenment which had broken the barrier of fear which had overtaken the country due to the preponderance of weapons.

Within this framework, through successive elections, the UDP has reached a democratic victory with social justice.

The main objective of our program is to provide food, health, education, clothing, housing and work throughout the country to our people. What do we intend to do in this new stage? We intend to reaffirm our cultural and national identity within the American (?order).

We intend to consolidate the hegemony of the popular classes which represent a part of that identity. [applause and shouts]

We reaffirm our anti-imperialist and anticolonialist policy, within the framework of an international nonalignment and of an unavoidable struggle for our maritime demand. [shouts and applause]

These are the principles we presented to the United Nations in 1952 when we stated that peace and development are indivisible in a world agitated by all kinds of aggressions and threats. Bolivia now holds one of the vice presidencies of the Nonaligned Movement, a movement which encompasses two thirds of mankind. This is the result of the recognition of the sacrifice, heroism and strength of our people.

We maintain that the people's sovereignty is inseparable from national sovereignty, and that the latter cannot exist without the liberation of the popular classes. We propose to reaffirm political ideological pluralism within the process of freedom.

We plan to develop and organize the concept of the self-government of the people so that they can actively participate and thus become the beneficiaries of the people's national project.

We propose that the accrued capital be used to meet the basic needs of the people.

We propose the systematic development of a mixed economy.

We propose the national control of the economic resources with the unproductive sectors receiving minimum appropriations.

We propose the development of the internal market and the consolidation of national integration while we support the Latin American integration process at the same time.

This is the general framework within which we intend to implement short- and medium-term policies, without disregarding the guidelines of the major objectives and of the structural changes which we will tackle decisively as soon as the immediate difficulties are overcome.

We all know that natural disasters have been added to the current crisis. The situation has been aggravated by floods in the eastern departments, namely Santa Cruz, Beni and Pando, and by drought affecting some Bolivian towns, especially Potosi.

We owe Potosi, which along with other locations has been forgotten for years, all the support we can give it within our economic reality. [applause, chants]

On this occasion, my fellow countrymen, I urge that we create a popular common fund in order to help our fellow countrymen of northern Potosi. [applause, chants] These disasters, which are not the making of man, oblige the state to help the stricken areas on a priority basis and to take the necessary measures to prevent epidemics, make sure those affected received attention and prevent famine which is a threat to thousands of fellow countrymen because they have lost their crops.

We have drafted an emergency plan that foresees providing seeds, foodstuffs, goods, tools and technical assistance in addition to medical services. This will help cope with these natural disasters and reduce the impact on the populations of the cities, which will also suffer from the effects of reduced agricultural production.

The mining and metallurgical sector will continue to be one of the most important factors of our project. But we will radically change the characteristics of the way it functions, starting with the scientific prospecting for new deposits and the improvement of production techniques until we secure the overall national surplus production for the nation through state control of its marketing. [applause, chants]

The exploitation of hydrocarbons, another pillar that supports the country's economy, will be reprogrammed in order to generate the economic resources we need for our development. We will strengthen the state oil institution, freeing it of the burden of its debt and of its high dependency [words indistinct].

Fellow countrymen, the peasants are a national majority that has been exploited and impoverished by the dictatorships. During this state we are going to guarantee an improvement in their standard of living and in their production so that the wealth generated through their work will be returned to their sector and thus benefit the agricultural sector. [applause, chants]

We will enter the second stage of agrarian reform. This will begin with the strengthening of the National Agrarian Reform Council and the implementation of a Bolivian nutritional system. With the improvement of the income of the peasant, we will ensure the direct supply of foodstuffs directly to the whole population.

The peasant, and pleace take this into account my fellow Bolivians, will have access to loans and other services. [applause] We have ordered the creation of agricultural machinery centers that the state will be in charge of so they can give their services to the lower income producers and not, as happened in the past, to the rich cotton growers of the East. [applause, cheers]

The Ministry of Campesino Affairs and Agriculture, together with the zonal development councils, will give top priority to the small irrigation systems that are intended for the small farmer, with community work, which is part of the peasant's social tradition, also taken into account.

We will make a maximum effort to establish peasant markets so as to protect the interests of producers and the budgets of producers and consumers who today are exploited by middlemen. [applause, cheers]

The interests of the majority are the foremost concern in a war economy. However, the purchasing power of workers is not only guaranteed through salary increases but also by guaranteeing their access to staples. To do this we must mobilize the national production apparatus and establish a market system in the cities and in the interior of the country. The government will directly participate in this program, both through the control of prices or enforcing measures aimed at repressing hoarding and speculation, and by offering transportation and distribution facilities. [applause -- cheers]

Moreover, if necessary, the government will import foodstuffs, and medicine and anything required in the short-term whenever it is effectively proven that national production is insufficient to meet demand.

We will allocate a significant amount of funds to reactivate the public and private economic apparatus. However, these funds will be used basically to maintain or increase the employment rate and to guarantee production of inputs and foodstuffs. This measure will prevent these [word indistinct] funds from being drained from the country or invested in unproductive activities. Private businessmen are faced with a great challenge; they must show the people that they are willing to help the country and to attain the proposed economic reactivation by carrying out responsible, patriotic and unslefish actions. [applause]

The democratic government has confidence in the loyalty that the armed forces have expressed for the Constitution, the laws and this democratic and popular process, to which the armed forces owe allegiance by institutional mandate.

Those who encourage fruitless and alarmist plans must not forget that commanders and officers, who are identified with democracy and their institution, participated, together with the people, in the resistance.

These are in the new armed forces that, under the command of those who were the victims of bloody persecution, are now guaranteeing the continuity of the democratic process, [applause]

The constitutional governemnt and the people highly value the internal purge that the armed forces are carrying out in order to free themselves of individuals who corrupted themselves in the exercise of power. The small number of officers who continue to make dire predictions should be sanctioned and discharged. [applause]

Servicemen have decided to support the historic initiative taken by the mineworkers of San Jose. From generals on down to sergeants, servicemen are making economic contributions [words indistinct] to resolve the crisis and consolidate the democratic process. [applause, chants]

Our major concern is not over seditious officers but over officers who are inclined to stage coups and who fear an investigation of their ill-gotten gains. We are concerned over the corruption instituted by the dictatorship which continues to be practiced in state organs.

We are concerned over the irresponsible actions carried out by (?professionals), who are making claims that are impossible to honor and abusing union rights without thinking of the painful times experiences by the people under the dictatorships. The people reject speculators who try to take advantage of troubled times. Even the right has adopted a democratic facade and pretends to be leftist and revolutionary, provided that its monetary interests are not affected, [applause, chants]

The renegotiation of the foreign debt is an imperative that cannot be avoided. This renegotiation will prevent the situation whereby most of the national economic resources are used to pay our current debts. This renegotiation will be carried out in terms compatible with the current national economic situation.

We have created a ministerial organization to fight drug trafficking more effectively. We know that the financial power of this illegal business is very great and the state has to confront it at a disadvantage.

We will coordinate our actions with Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and the United States, the countries that are most affected by this scourge. [shouts]

Within the law we will bring the groups of irregulars, or paramilitary groups, to trial; those groups that have murdered and tortured the people [applause and shouts] for this to be carried out effectively and so that they can give an account of themselves, it is necessary that the population cooperate, especially in order to identify those criminals. We must also investigate the illegally earned private fortunes. Put special attention on this, fellow countrymen, because this is linked to the names you have mentioned.

I also propose the investigation of illegally earned private wealth, with the full force of the law, [shouts, applause] so that the opulence of the new riches will not be a display of luxury insulting the poverty of the majority [shouts, applause]

We must take into account that we will intensify the state control of all sectors which are in the interest of the national economy. We have already reinstated the superintendant general of the banks. We will also create a state organization of insurance, and we will also seek the rationalization of the powers of state institutions.

The achievement of all these objectives, which serve no other purpose than protecting the interests of the Bolivian people, will only be possible with the full and effective participation of the people. For this reason, we decided to establish a minimum wage with an escalator clause which will allow us to gradually reach a minimum wage that people can live on. [shouts and applause]

For the same reason, with a revolutionary spirit, we have accepted the recent resolution issued by the Bolivian Labor Federation on participating in the decisionmaking powers of this national and popular government. [applause and shouts]

This decision fills us with satisfaction, because itconstitutes the answer we have been expecting from our proposals issued in Lima while in exile, and reiterated on returning to Bolivia on 11 October 1982. [applause]

As of today, my government is willing to hold negotiations on workers comanagement in government enterprises and the participation of workers in this government since this is the government of the people of Bolivia. [applause, cheers]

I urge those present here today to pay homage to all those men, women, and children who have struggled for the national liberation process for 30 years. We must honor all those who died in this long process. Those who died at Catavi, Siglo XX, Villa Victoria, (Molabipata), Caracoles, Episanas, Solata and Santa Cruz. Those hundreds of persons who have given their lives for the national revolution and for democracy. We must honor the memory of Father Espinal; Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz; [applause, cheers] our MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] companeros who were killed on Harrington Street [applause]; Companero Juan Carlos del Plata; [applause]; our Companeros Carlos Flores, Enrique Barragan, Jorge Satori; and many othervictims of dictatorship and fascism. [applause]

It is in their memory that we continue our struggle and the building of the fatherland.

Let us be faithful to their memory by organizing ourselves to struggle and (?win) [applause, cheers; "The people united shall never be defeated"]

The slogan the people united shall never be defeated has special significance at this time.

We are living in extraordinarily difficult times that demand great sacrifices and particularly the unity of all Bolivians so that we may form a united front against adversity.

In keeping with our aspiration to achieve national unity and as we said in Montero last year, it would be unjust not to mention at this time, the participation of those who like Victor Paz Estenssoro, Walter Guevara Arce and Juan Lechin Oquendo, were with us on 9 April 1952 sharing the same trench, and defending the same cause. [cheers]

Our people have never succumbed to misfortune and we have always struggled united to overcome difficult situations. [cheers]

We are a poor people materially but rich in dignity. We are a people whose greatest asset lies in the moral strength, the decision to struggle and the capacity for work of its masses.

The government will always respect the just demands of the people for democracy, freedom and social progress. [applause, cheers].

Therefore, we shall never succmb to ill-intentioned criticism since the people are the undefeated shield of national sovereignty and it is for the people that we shall march on to victory. Long live Bolivia!

CUBAN RELIEF AID ARRIVES FOR SANTA CRUZ AREA

PY121450 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] In a report issued to the media, the Defense Ministry and the national civil defense directorate reported that a Cuban Airline plane carrying a Cuban donation for the people affected by the Piray River floods arrived in Santa Cruz from Havana on Monday 4 April. On delivering the donation, Jorge Lizcano, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, stated that the donation is a token of fraternity. The donation consists of 7,300 kg of drugs and vaccines, 3,000 kg of processed food and 200 kg of condensed milk. Health Minister Javier Torrez Goitia, Civil Defense Director Major (Mendez Roca) and other civil defense authorities received the donation, authorized spokesmen reported. Representatives of the local and international press were also present. The donation was deposited with the organization Caritas Boliviana.

Col Gary Prado Salmon, commander of the Eighth Army Division, categorically denied that Cuba sent weapons along with the medicines and the food that was donated last week for the people affected by the recent floods in Santa Cruz.

Salmon termed false reports made in an editorial published in the daily (HOY) to the effect that the mayor of Santa Cruz is organizing a strike force made up of mercenaries who are assisted by the Cuban intelligence service; and that the equipment, actually weapons, has just arrived at (El Trompillo) airport on a Soviet plane carrying donations for the people affected by the Piray River floods. Commander Prado Salmon told the news agency DPA during a telephone conversation that Bolivian Army personnal supervised and unloaded the Cuban donation.

Santa Cruz Mayor Denial

PY131327 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Santa Cruz Prefect Joaquin Monasterios downplayed Santa Cruz press reports to the effect that he is organizing strike forces with Cuban assistance. Monasterios said that the reports are false, charging that it is another maneuver aimed at destabilizing the peace prevailing in Santa Cruz as a result of Bolivia's democratic process.

Monasterios said that the Cuban plane that landed in Santa Cruz delivered a 2 and 1/2-ton [as heard] donation for people affected by the floods, adding that the unloading of the donation was supervised by personnel of the Eighth Army Division stationed in Santa Cruz. Monasterios also praised the Bolivian people's solidarity with the people affected by floods. Monasterios reported that affected families total 3,000, including families that were affected last year.

Armed Groups Active in Area

PY140324 Paris AFP in Spanish 1608 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 13 Apr (AFP) -- It was reported here today that peasants from the region of Paurito, 20 km south of the eastern city of Santa Cruz, have again charged that paramilitary groups are still active. A group tried to recruit the peasants and offered to pay them in dollars.

The peasants reported that the population of Paurito is in a state of alarm because they heard shots last night.

On its part, the headquarters of the 8th Army Division, which is based in Santa Cruz, has reported that it is carrying out an investigation in the area in order to determine whether the armed groups are drug traffickers, paramilitary displaced from power, or ultraleftist guerrillas.

VICE PRESIDENT CRITICIZES CURRENT GOVERNMENT

PY131840 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0111 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 12 Apr (EFE) -- Bolivian Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora has harshly criticized the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo. He said that "Siles Zuazo's government has not met the people's expectations."

In remarks to the afternoon newspaper ULTIMA HORA of La Paz, Paz Zamora, who is the head of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], stated that "the people want greater participation in everything that has to do with democracy." He said that on establishing the democratic process, the largest sectors of this country wanted to participate actively in overcoming the serious economic crisis and to be continously active and not mere spectators as they are now.

He stated, however, that he is convinced that the most important aspect of this situation is that during the past 6 months the Bolivian people have lived in democracy and have not called the government program into question.

Paz Zamora, who serves ex officio as president of the National Congress, stated that democracy will gradually attain its full depth in Bolivia. "If we have given 20 years to the dictatorial regimes, we must give half that time to democracy." He added that with the separation of his party from Siles Zuazo's government, the regime is no longer the same one for which the people voted in the 1980 general elections.

PAZ ZAMORA MEETS U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL SMITH

PY131307 Paris AFP in Spanish 0040 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpts] La Paz, 12 Apr (AFP) -- Bolivian Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora suggested here today to U.S. Attorney General William French Smith, who is making an official visit to this country, the need to remove the issue of cocaine from the relations between his country and the United States, to achieve better and greater bilateral understanding.

Paz Zamora said that the drug traffic scourge should not be the only problem dealt with in bilateral relations but that other, not necessarily illegal, matters should be taken into consideration.

The high U.S. Government official carried out intensive activity on his first day in this capital. He met with President Hernan Siles Zuazo, Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado and Interior Minister Mario Roncal Antezana.

SFRY'S ZARKOVIC ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

PY132120 Paris AFP in Spanish 1908 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 13 Apr (AFP) -- Member of the SFRY Presidency Vidoje Zarkovic arrived in La Paz at 1755 GMT today on a 3-day official visit to Bolivia. Zarkovic was welcomed by Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo at El Alto International Airport.

Zarkovic, who came from Colombia, was accompanied by his wife Ljiljana, by Minister for Economic Affairs Rikard Stajner and high-ranking SFRY officials. Bolivia is being visited by a Yugoslav president after 23 years. The previous visitor was Josip Broz (Tito) who was here in 1960 at the invitation of former President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

Attends Reception

PY140150 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Member of the SFRY presidency Vidoje Zarkovic and his delegation arrived today in La Paz at 1335 at the El Alto International Airport where they began protocol activities and meetings with authorities of the central government.

At the airport, the Yugoslav chief of state was received by the chief of state of Bolivia and other high-ranking government officials. A military formation saluted the illustrious visitor.

At this time, the SFRY chief of state is attending a reception given in his honor at Government Palace where President Siles Zuazo will award him the Great Collar of the Condor of the Andes, the highest Bolivian decoration.

VELARDE SCORES CHILEAN MINISTER ON SEA OUTLET

PY121343 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The Bolivian Foreign Ministry rejects the arrogant and derogatory words used by Chilean Foreign Minister Alex Schweitzer on referring to the international community's support for Bolivia's landlocked situation as an act of commiseration. Velarde Dorado stated that the international support is an act of justice recognizing Bolivia's inalienable right to recover the sea outlet taken away from it by Chile during the war of 1879.

The Chilean minister originally showed understanding toward a problem that is affecting the whole continent. However, at the end of his statements, which I have just read in the newspaper EL MERCURIO of Santiago, Chile, Schweitzer turned around and endorsed the statements made by his predecesor Rene Rojas Galdames to the effect that the world commiserates over the Bolivian situation because the rights are Chilean.

I do not approve of the word commiseration. We do not accept the arrogance and even the bad manners of a professional to whom I referred in generous terms on recognizing his capacity and prestige as a criminal lawyer, Velarde said.

MONTERO ON OUSTED PRIESTS, REGIME'S PROGRAM

PY131358 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Mar p D1, 2

[Interview granted by Chilean Interior Minister Enrique Montero to EL MERCURIO correspondent Blanca Arthur in Santiago on 17 March]

[Text] [Question] Why didn't you wait for the Irish priests [Brendan Forde and Desmond McGuillicudy] to leave since their visas had been cancelled?

[Answer] We verified that there was a movement of activities with the objective of turning this problem into a banner for the struggle against the government. We were extremely cautious in keeping the measure adopted quiet. However, this restraint did not meet similar restraint on the part of some church spokesmen, a situation which created a political mobilization we could not accept. The Interior Ministry is absolutely certain that the three priests were activists.

Without interruption, Minister Montero said that in his opinion, the measure was absolutely necessary. He said: "This is a way of showing the principle of authority regarding persons who, protecting themselves under certain conditions, became activists. We are concerned about seeing in Chile the type of problems we saw in Nicaragua."

[Question] But eclesiastical officials said that they were engaged in pastoral work. Church officials have even accused the government of harrassing priests doing their work....

[Answer] We would have to identify the specific cases. What happened is that on the way out of some churches, particularly in Pudahuel, these priests carried out political demonstrations during which an effigy, presumably of the chief of state, was burned....

[Question] But they were being watched?

[Answer] We gathered information in order to learn the exact situation. This, however, does not mean that there is a plan of action against the Catholic Church. In this regard, I can categorically say that there is not.

[Question] The opinion of the cardinal and other church officials is different.

[Answer] The government has the best intentions toward the church, but this does not deprive us of the right to determine when presumed pastoral work exceeds certain limits and becomes activism. We cannot accept this just because they are priests.

[Question] Looking at the problem from the government viewpoint, do you not see the possible risk of the consequences becoming worse then the actions these priests could have carried out?

[Answer] The important thing to see is that no effect is more negative than not fulfilling a commitment to the wellbeing of the people, which we are obliged to protect. We are ready to face the consequences, but Chilean society appreciates order and normality and it is our duty to enforce it.

[Question] Considering the Chilean international situation and the recent vote at the United Nations, don't you think that this kind of measure could have a negative effect? Are these measures in keeping with the requests for greater coordination between domestic and foreign policy made by the foreign minister?

[Answer] In order to make a decision, the opinion of the foreign minister is naturally considered, and in this case he agreed after becoming acquainted with the information obtained when the measure was taken. Once the details of the case were known, and considering that they were foreigners who violated the political recess, there should not have been any negative international repercussions.

[Question] Minister, what answer do you give to those who see a demonstration of weakness on the part of the government in measures of this kind?

[Answer] I do not believe this is a demonstration of weakness. We respect the law and the law prescribes the rules of the game. Article 24, of temporary validity, was not established as a rule to defend alleged government weakness. It is simply aimed at protecting all the values which must be consolidated in this period.

[Question] Don't you think that when the beginning of...

[Answer] Excuse me, I wanted to finish saying that believing that the enforcement of temporary Article 24 is a sign of weakness would be the same as saying that the Penal Code is a sign of weakness of society.

[Question] What I wanted to ask is whether there is a contradiction in consolidating a system of freedom -- as it is believed -- and in continuing to enforce restrictive measures....

[Answer] It is essential that just as freedom is being allowed, respect for authority also exists; otherwise it all becomes license. As far as I am concerned, respect for authority is an immutable principle. Therefore, I have to protect this principle, which is the one that is going to guide us on the right path until 1989.

[Question] But this is a special article and...

[Answer] ...of course, for a special situation.

[Question] However, this special situation granting the right to enforce the special article is not renewed to save the principle of respect for authority, but to save the country from the threat of disruption of internal order, so it is not clear to me why it is renewed.

[Answer] We have to consider whether there is a danger of disruption, and since we believe there is, we must have the powers of temporary Article 24, an article which is not aimed at punishing, but at preventing possible acts which could bring about the disruption of internal order.

[Question] Minister, what do you think of the statement that in order to come out of the crisis the country is experiencing, there is a need not only for economic measures, but also for a clearer political confidence-building plan?

[Answer] I believe that the political plan is clear. What I do believe is necessary is to give signals, and they are being given. Of course, in his 11 March speech, the president was categorical in saying that the Constitution will be enforced no matter the cost. He even established a commission to study still pending constitutional laws.

[Question] This is not the first time that the same thing has been said. Therefore, it seems like a repetition of intentions, but in reality....

[Answer] This is why I am saying the clear signs, which are more than intentions, are necessary.

[Question] And what are those signals?

[Answer] Those given by the president on 11 March which must now be executed. It is important to create the commission, and this we are doing now, announcing the names of its members. It is important that they be trustworthy persons of recognized competence who can carry out the task in accordance with the guidelines set by the president.

[Question] Is there any guarantee that this commission will not have the same fate as the commission on exiles?

[Answer] The program for the exiles continues.

[Question] Not along the line of expectations created, and the commission was dissolved.

[Answer] The program continues as circumstances permit.

[Question] Mr Minister, the thing is that situations such as that of the exiles undermine the confidence in the possibility of real advances. Don't you believe that in order to attain the objective, those situations must be contemplated within a more consistent political plan?

[Answer] As I told you, the plan is laid out and, in the case of the exiles, the question hinges on finding an element capable of generating the spirit of national unity which must prop up the plan.

[Question] Up to what point can the plan make sense if it does not go hand in hand with other measures indicating forward movement in the transition process, in the modernization process, and in the liberalization process beginning with an opening at the university level?

[Answer] Of course I am convinced that there must be modernization, but that can be done without the necessity of lifting existing restrictions.

[Question] But that is what gives the impression that a consistent plan does not exist. It does not look like a coordinated plan.

[Answer] What do you think? That things are not moving?

[Question] More than that, Mr Minister. I think that measures are taken in an isolated way yielding no fruit because they are not integral parts of a transition plan. On the specific case of the laws, for instance, a timetable was set up last year; the year passed but no law was sent to the legislative body on the scheduled dates.

[Answer] What we must do is look ahead so that the road to institutionalization can become a reality. This is our goal at this time.

[Question] As the government's political chief, what do you think about the possibility of the universities again being managed by the academics?

[Answer] You said that there were inconsistencies and a lack of coordination but I can tell you that regarding the universities, we are in contact with the education minister and that I fully agree with the propositions she has made as a result of joint action with the universities.

[Question] And do you also agree with her evaluation of conceited politicians...?

[Answer] There are all kinds of politicians in Chile. There are quite respectable people who have contributed to forge important chapters in our country's history, but there are others who contributed with the wrong understanding of their responsibility, creating real chaos.

[Question] You told me that we have to look ahead. Could you affirm that the latest cabinet shuffle represents an advance in the transition process?

[Answer] What I can tell you is that the present cabinet is intended to underscore the determination to advance, and the persons who were called in by the president are a guarantee that the destination will be reached. It is a well-balanced team that works well together.

[Question] However, Mr Minister, the idea cannot be dispelled that the economic measures are not succeeding because they do not result from agreements.

[Answer] They are not succeeding because it is not easy to implement an economic plan in the present circumstances. Just think how many measures have been taken and the results were not the expected ones. That does not mean there were disagreements, because opinions may have been different but not opposed.

[Question] But it does not seem that confidence has been restored, and this is a political problem. How do you think this problem should be handled?

[Answer] It is important to demonstrate great clarity and firmness in what is done.

[Question] Isn't an obstacle to that this sort of war of rhetoric we are engaged in? We are in a transition, in normalization, moving toward an authoritarian democracy and now toward a nationalist democracy.

[Answer] Of course. I believe that we have to get rid of rhetoric here and adopt as rule the phrase used by a Roman law professor: "Facta, non parla." Actions speak louder than words.

[Question] Much has been said lately about consolidating what is referred to as democracy at the grassroots level. What does this mean to you, because there are some who see the possibility of doing away with political democracy that way?

[Answer] Those who see it that way do not know the Constitution nor do they understand the meaning of building a grassroots democracy. The idea is to begin a grassroots democracy since political freedom involves several steps. The step of grassroots participation will eventually allow control over the action of authoritatives. This participation will be the first step toward political freedom, then will come the participation in the writing of laws, and finally the choosing of authorities. I am convinced that by gradually taking those steps toward full political freedom, the citizenry will be in a better position to defend it should the need arise.

[Question] How do you interpret the growing withdrawal of support for the government by those who have been disappointed by the path chosen toward democracy? To what extent can one be a democrat and still continue to support the government?

[Answer] If we speak of political bases, some currents support the government but condition their support to the principles they uphold. However, I have no doubt that those who believe in democracy can have faith in this government.

[Question] And how do you view the process of rapprochement or understanding among sectors who think differently but affirm that democracy is their basic consensus?

[Answer] Who are they?

[Question] Spokesmen for various currents.

[Answer] But who are they? Are you referring to a group of persons who signed a manifesto? I only ask myself who is behind them? Whom do they represent? Did the people elect them as representatives when they voted for the Constitution in 1980?

[Question] Not only those who signed a manifesto, but also those who supported the 1980 Constitution but are now critical of the stagnation of the process toward democracy.

[Answer] I ask you again: Who are those who are critical?

[Question] Well, if you want names...

[Answer] We are beginning to see. I believe that the truly knowledgeable people in this country who supported us from the beginning are still with us. These people know perfectly well what our destination is and I do not think they feel frustrated.

Now if you tell me that those who have been affected by the economic situation have adopted a critical position, I believe that they are reacting to a personal problem rather than reflecting a political position.

[Question] Mr Minister, the thing is...

[Answer] Of course, in times of crisis those who are affected look for a cause, looking toward the government both to blame it for their problems and to ask for solutions. This is the truth, and so I do not beliee that the criticism is politically motivated.

[Question] But not all of it, because...

[Answer] You are not specific...

[Question] Well, I will be specific by mentioning the position maintained by state counselor Francisco Bulnes...

[Answer] Francisco Bulnes...

[Question] Excuse me, Mr Minister, but what I want to say to you is that Francisco Bulnes, although he signed no democratic manifesto, said that the current period is a hardened version of the prior periods, not one of transition.

[Answer] People like him have all the right to criticize, but they never cease to express support for the government.

[Question] And does the government consider their criticism or observations to be valid?

[Answer] They are valid. In the opinion of the interior minister, they are absolutely valid. I believe that they are worth considering as earnestly as they deserve.

[Question] And how are those criticisms received?

[Answer] We would have to consider the various cases.

[Question] When they say that the political process is not clear....

[Answer] As I told you, I receive them by trying to give clear signals. Now, we said that we are in a crisis, and in times of crisis there is a gap between what the people really want and what the government can and should deliver. This certainly makes political action difficult to a great extent.

[Question] You said that the criticism of some partisans must be accepted. Some opponents have expressed their willingness to act within the scheme, noting that they respect the government's legality but asking respect for their right to dissent. And this is a problem that has not been solved....

[Answer] Let's look at that. One thing is the right to dissent, and another to try to stray from the path laid down by the Constitution.

[Question] I was referring precisely to those who do not ask for constitutional reforms, but clarity in the rules of the game.

[Answer] We have not established any rules of the game. People can express their dissent whenever they want to.

[Question] But it seems clear that there is a limit. Up to what point is the is the expression of dissent accepted?

[Answer] As long as the opposition is respectful, as long as public order is not disturbed, as long as no demands are made to change the Constitution or to advance deadlines which have been set...it seems to me that there are no problems.

[Question] Mr Minister, the political recess seems to have been superceded by events. What do you think of the proposal that it would be more positive if opinion could be channeled through recognized political parties or movements of opinion?

[Answer] In the first place, I want to point out that there are many honorable people who have respected the political recess because they accept it as a rule of the game. And before I answer your question, I want to make it clear that the political recess is in force.

[Question] But do you believe...?

[Answer] As for those who claim to have representativity today, I do not believe they have.

[Question] My question is whether you believe that by accepting the existence of political currents, opinions can be channeled and representativity ascertained?

[Answer] I agree that the unwarranted appropriation of representativity must be avoided, but we must consider that it is more important to take the first steps within the process, exercising freedom gradually until attaining full political freedom.

[Question] In taking this process to its final conclusion, don't you believe that the long time this government will stay in power may wear down the armed forces' prestige?

[Answer] There are risks of course. All governments suffer wear and tear and it depends on us to a great degree to keep it at a minimum. And how? By giving more participation in the tasks of government to those who want to participate with us, by always maintaining a very clear image of the things that are being done and where they will take us. It is also important to maintain a clear image of an honest government of the armed forces who assumed power precisely because they represented the only reserve in Chilean society not contaminated by the political practices which undermined Chilean democracy. I am convinced that by keeping some virtues essential to a government, that wear and tear will be held to a minimum.

[Question] And in your case, Mr Minister, what kind of judgment would you want to be passed on you when you complete 10 years in government?

[Answer] The virtue I most admire in a man is the virtue of loyalty. If I am judged as a loyal man, I would have reason enough to be satisfied; loyal to other men and to my principles.

STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS

PY140326 Paris AFP in Spanish 0111 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 13 Apr (AFP) -- Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer stated today in Santiago that Gen Augusto Pinochet's government is going to take a number of steps that will permit President Reagan's administration to certify that there has been in improvement in the human rights situation in Chile.

The U.S. Congress has approved a draft bill that authorizes the renewal of military aid to Chile, but it must first have the White House's certification that there has been progress in the human rights situation in Chine.

The Chilean foreign minister said that we are going to take a number of steps that will help in getting the certification. The Chilean foreign minister met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz 2 weeks ago in Washington.

Although he did not specify what the stpes would be, Schweitzer indicated that the country's process of institutionalization will be precisely what the U.S. Administration will take into account to grant the certification.

I believe that the U.S. Government would like to grant the certification, he said, but without it provoking problems in Congress, because this situation has a political connotation.

He revealed that the certification is a White House mechanism that can or cannot be granted, but either way it will not affect the good relations that the two countries have been experiencing since the Reagan administration came to power.

From a political viewpoint, he said, I believe that my meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz is much more important and relevant, the foreign minister concluded.

REGIME AUTHORIZES MORE EXILES TO RETURN

PY140143 Paris AFP in Spanish 1638 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Santiago, 13 Apr (AFP) -- According to an official report, the Chilean military government today authorized the return of another 48 political exiles. Thus the government is continuing with its policy of national conciliation.

PRESIDENT BETANCUR ON CONTADORA GROUP'S EFFORTS

PA131410 Paris AFP in Spanish 0248 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota, 12 Apr (AFP) -- President Belisario Betancur declared this evening that the intent of Colombia and the four other Central American governments is to avoid "a total war between the great powers -- the United States and the Soviet Union." He added: "If they want to clash, let them find someplace other than Central America to do so."

Betancur said this after meeting with the consultative committee (?of) journalists in charge of regulating their union's activities. He mentioned the possibility of issuing a new statute for the profession with emphasis on improved economic well-being.

According to an Emirsoras CARACOL Network broadcast, Betancur also said that, unfortunately, factors that disturb the process of peace -- such as an offensive letter sent by Sandinist Commander Daniel Ortega to Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova -- have arisen in recent hours.

Betancur revealed that the United States has been "receptive" the Contadora Group's efforts, and declared that favorable responses are now expected from Cuba and other countries. "If people seek why I am involved in this task of seeking peace for Central America while Colombia has so many problems of its own, I tell them: What happens in Central America affects us all, and a war in that region would affect us gravely indeed," the president said.

President Betancur stressed that he is not the leader of the search for peace, "because the leader is peace itself." Betancur reported that he held consultations today with Central American presidents, with the Colombian ambassador to Washington and with other important people from this continent in his efforts to prevent such a war, which has appeared imminent in recent hours.

Betancur added: "What is clear is that the two powers, the Soviet Union and the United States, are close to clashing in Central America." He noted: "The presidents of the Contadora group are making an independent effort in the certainty that peace in this region will benefit all of us."

It was reported that Betancur made a quick trip last weekend to discuss this sensitive issue with his Venezuelan, Mexican, Panama and Costa Rican colleagues.

BETANCUR LETTER TO DE LA ESPRIELLA ON MEETING

PA120333 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Letter from Colombian President Belisario Betancur to Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella upon Betancur's return to Colombia from Panama on 10 April -- read by announcer]

[Text] Mr President:

After leaving Panama's territory following this very brief tour, which served to heighten the spirit of solidarity of the Contadora document, allow me to express my sincere gratitude as Colombian president to you for your display of appreciation that I took to be evidence of Colombian-Panamanian brotherhood.

The meeting of foreign ministers that will begin in a few hours will undoubtedly be a new step forward that will make it possible to stimulate dialogue and negotiation among the leading parties of the complex conflict in our Central America. This situation will be defused if its ultimate causes are understood; that is, the quest for economic betterment, social change and authentic political independence.

I have repeatedly said that this situation must not be viewed as a replica of the East-West confrontation. If it were regarded as such, it would be like fanning the flames, as we say in my country.

There is no doubt that we will advance further along this difficult but beautiful path, at the end of which is the desired peace.

To you, Mr President, to your aides and to the entire Panamanian nation, from which further hope will radiate for our Central American compatriots, a warm embrace and my highest consideration and esteem.

Cordially, Belisario Betancur, president of Colombia

Letter to Monge

PA120426 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Letter from Colombian President Belisario Betancur to Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge upon Betancur's arrival in Bogata on 10 April -- read by announcer]

[Text] Mr President:

The very pleasant opportunity I had of talking with you and the president of Panama prompts me to send you a sincere message of thanks for your [words indistinct] the mission, which was a great honor to me, of being a messenger of peace under the terms agreed to in January by the foreign ministers of Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia. We agree that a dialogue must be initiated by all parties involved in the grave Central American situation in order to find stability with progress and peace with democracy. The real enemy of our peoples is economic backwardness and its innumerable sequels of social injustice.

We are dealing with these issues in the framework of the principles of our historical rights: nonintervention, self-determination of peoples and the peaceful solution of conflicts among nations. We have just emerged from our meeting in Panama, the sister nation that has the experience of the negotiations that led to the latest canal treaties, and all of our brotherly governments and peoples realize the important contribution that Latin American solidarity made to those treaties. The example of the Panamanian-North American negotiation and the example of Latin American solidarity with Panama's just demands influence the thinking of the main parties to the Central American conflict at this very grave moment.

Please receive, President Monge, and through you, the entire Costa Rican people, a renewed expression of my consideration and esteem.

Cordially, Belisario Betancur, president of Colombia

BETANCUR, FRENCH PRESIDENT EXCHANGE NOTES

PA140300 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur and French President Francois Mitterrand have exchanged messages commenting on the grave world situation and the threat of an economic collapse in all countries.

This evening the presidential press office announced the messages exchanged between the two presidents. In his message, President Betancur said that the rich and poor countries face the danger of an imminent holocaust because of the arms buildup and the dialogue between people who cannot hear anything about unjust economic and social relations between the big powers and those of us who don't belong to the privileged group.

The French president's response to President Betancur's note states: As you clearly state, the rich and the poor must jointly face the economic problems and threats hovering over our planet because of the arms buildup by some countries. Is it too late? I hope not. In any case, I am sure that the dialogue you want to hold with me is positive for our two countries, for the Latin world to which we are proud to belong, and for peace and justice in the world.

NICARAGUAN D'ESCOTO ON FOREIGN MILITARY ADVISERS

PA140354 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0329 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota, 13 Apr (EFE) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto said today in this capital that the Central American problem will not be solved by withdrawing foreign military advisers.

D'Escoto arrive in Colombia along with Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo. Beginning his 3-day visit, D'Escoto said that foreign aid is especially necessary when an army is being organized. In a brief statement to the media at the military airport, D'Escoto said that it is necessary to hold direct dialogues between the parties involved in order to achieve the total peace his country wants. He added, however, that the United States is "intransigent" and will not dialogue and much less negotiate.

The Colombian minister said that the efforts of the so-called "Contadora Group" (Venezuela, Mexico, Panama and Colombia) are positive and will continue immediately after the foreign ministers inform their presidents of their conclusions. He said that the environment in the region is good and that the chiefs of state of the nations involved in the conflict are prepared to cooperate to have a stable peace.

SFRY'S ZARKOVIC ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA112111 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Report by Leonel Torres]

[Text] Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the Presidency of the SFRY, has just arrived in Bogota on an official visit to Colombia at the invitation of President Belisario Betancur. Mr Zarkovic arrive in Cartagena yesterday.

He spent the night there, and today he arrived in Bogota, where he was welcomed by President Betancur at Eldorado Airport.

The member of the SFRY Presidency will meet with President Betancur at 1600 in Narino House, where they will exchange ideas, opinions and views on various aspects of international policy, especially with regard to the Nonaligned Movement, which was originally established in Yugoslavia.

At 2000, the president and the first lady will hold a reception for the Yugoslav leader.

Decorated by Betancur

PA121934 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur has said that Colombia's admission to the Nonaligned Movement was to tell the leaders of the two blocs, which have tried to divide the world, that it is unacceptable to continue confusing their heritage from Western civilization with their role as clients.

Betancur made this statement at Narino Palace during the ceremony to decorate one of the State Presidency members of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia. The official was honored with the Cross of Boyaca. Yugoslavia is one of the countries that promoted the creation of the Nonaligned Movement.

While reiterating his defense of Colombia's admission to the independent bloc, President Betancur said: We did not do this just to join another bloc, but to stop being aligned; to start being a nonaligned country; to start -- within a larger forum and without commitments -- discussing with our brothers on this planet our common problems concerning peace, sovereignty, dignity, survival and the right we all have to demand that others let us live in peace without interfering with our will.

Betancur also criticized the rash arms buildup that spends billions of dollars per minute when these funds could be used to improve the conditions in which two thirds of the world's population are still living.

Betancur renewed his hope for peace in Central America, saying that this will only be achieved under the principles that inspired the creation of the OAS: The people's self-determination and nonintervention.

The visitor, Vidoje Zarkovic, replied to Betancur's speech by praising Colombian democracy and reaffirming his country's intention to increase trade with Colombia.

Leaves for Bolivia

PA132019 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the SFRY Presidency, concluded a 3-day official visit to Colombia today. He left for La Paz, Bolivia at 0900 to continue his tour of various Latin American nations.

President Belisario Betancur, his wife Rosa Elena Alvarez de Betancur, cabinet ministers and other government officials went to the Bogota Military Airport to bid farewell to Zarkovic and his retinue.

The results of his visit to Colombia were described as positive because of the rapprochement established between the two governments at the presidential level and due to the prospects for closer economic, scientific and cultural cooperation and the coincidence of views on the role of the Nonaligned Movement in the international community.

TOWN OF ITAGUI PLACED UNDER MILITARY CONTROL

PA130217 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Medellin -- The town of Itagui today is totally militarized as result of the incidents last Monday at dawn when the residents decided to call a civic strike.

So far, 10 persons, including 6 minors and 5 policemen [figures as heard], have been injured in the demonstrations, and approximately 200 persons have been placed under arrest by the Itagui police and F-2 agents.

The civic movement has been infiltrated by the guerrillas, according to Itagui Mayor (Rosa Elena Orozco de Castillo) and the ranking military and police authorities. Tonight, however, calm has been restored, although transportation, commerce and schools remain closed.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON OPERATION IN BUCARAMANGA

PA110232 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0826 GMT 8 Apr 83

[By Jesus Fonseca Escartin]

[Excerpt] Bogota, 8 Apr (EFE) -- A spectacular action called a "combing operation" has been underway for 1 week in Bucaramanga, in eastern Colombia, against the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

Thus far 3 FARC members have been killed and 10 others captured.

The defense minister reported the casualties in a brief communique that contained no details on the clashes.

The "combing operation" forced the rebels to retreat from the zone, which is one of the most strife-torn regions of the country.

A large amount of war materiel, ammunition and FARC propaganda was seized.

FOREIGN MINISTER TERMS TERRORIST ACTS GENOCIDE

PY132000 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb has stated that terrorists are committing the very serious crime of genocide against their fellow countrymen -- humble people -- and yet they claim to be acting in defense of the people.

Schwalb, who is also prime minister, made this statement after a meeting with the president of the republic. He said that as the massacre of reporters was condemned, we must also condemn the murder of these peasants. Therefore, the whole country must express support for these peasants.

Schwalb also said that the recent border problem with Ecuador has been totally overcome.

On leaving Government Palace, Schwalb also said that Bolivia's landlocked situation is a bilateral problem between Bolivia and Chile. He stated: [Begin Schwalb recording] Well, you know that Bolivian maritime policy seeks an immediate solution to its landlocked problem, and any negotiation in this regard must seek a satisfactory solution.

[Question] What is your position on this issue?

[Answer] What I have always maintained: that it is a bilateral problem between Chile and Bolivia, and Peru expresses its sincere desire that the two parties reach a satisfactory solution. [end recording]

AFP on Terrorism

PY120134 Paris AFP in Spanish 1620 GMT 9 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Lima, 9 Apr (AFP) -- The Peruvian Government, 100 days after the armed forces began to fight the Shining Path group, expressed its optimism regarding the operations of the armed forces and the police in the emergency zone, which includes 9 provinces in 3 Andean departments.

But, the extremists reappeared dramatically carrying out on Sunday the worst butchery -- 66 dead -- that they have ever carried out and yesterday, Friday, when they murdered 4 policemen, after a 15-day truce to allow a normal celebration of Easter weekend, the most important festivity in Ayacucho.

Moreover, there is very little official information about the combined armed forces-police operations, because the Political-Military Command, which is in the charge of General Clemente Noel, limits itself to releasing communiques when there is a terrorist attack or an armed confrontation. Press reports are also very brief because the news correspondents have been asked not to disseminate reports that will hurt the pacification campaign.

However, journalists of opposition newspapers have not complied with this request, especially the leftist newspaper EL DIARIO DE LA MARKA, which charges that paramilitary groups -- it also calls them death squads -- are carrying out bloody actions. The civilian and military authorities deny that these groups exist.

Prime Minister Fernando Schwalb has told foreign journalists that the situation is under control, but the fight against the group, which has Maoist leanings, will probably be a long one.

On his part, Interior Minister Fernando Rincon has reiterated that the extremists are beating a hasty retreat, but he also stated that a deadline for the total liquidation of these criminals cannot be given.

It has been reported that the police, supported by the Army, Navy and Air Force, are slowly reoccupying the towns and villages that they abandoned some time ago with loss of life in the face of the incursions of the terrorists.

Thus, the government is slowly taking over control of the zone, although no police stations have been installed in some villages and scarcely populated areas, which made the attack against the Lucamarca community on Sunday easy. With this massacre, the violence now accounts for 504 dead, including 281 terrorists, 177 civilians and 49 policemen, according to official statistics, including private statistics that have been fully confirmed.

AP BACKS RESIGNING AGRICULTURE MINISTER

PY132005 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Agriculture Minister Mirko Cuculiza has received broad support from Popular Action [AP] congressmen. This support was granted during the meeting of the congressional coordinating committee held on Monday in (Nana), during which the agriculture minister reported that he had presented his resignation to President Belaunde. This was received by the party members like a bucket of cold water.

The agriculture minister explained the problems he is facing due to the sugar shortage and the current situation in the agricultural sector.

After listening to the detailed report by the agriculture minister, the AP congressmen unanimously expressed support for his performance as head of the Agriculture Ministry.

BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT LIMA 26 APRIL

PY111752 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo will visit Peru on 26 April. This report was released by [Guillermo Llosas Pausado], secretary general of the Foreign Ministry and deputy foreign minister.

(Llosas) said that Siles Zuazo will return the visit of Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde to Bolivia on the occasion of Siles Zuazo's presidential inauguration.

Asked about the new Peruvian ambassador to the United States, (Llosas) said that no date has been set yet for his designation.

$711 MILLION OF FOREIGN DEBT REFINANCED

PY081637 Paris AFP in Spanish 1452 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Montevideo, 7 Apr (AFP) -- Central Bank President Jose Puppo stated upon returning to Montevideo that 90 percent of the public sector's short-term foreign debt and 90 percent of its medium and short-term debts, which fall due in 1983 and in 1984 respectively, will be refinanced under the agreement that Uruguay has signed with international creditor banks.

In statements made to the press, Puppo said that the agreement provides for the refinancing of $711 million of Uruguay's foreign debt and for additional funds totalling $240 million for 1983.

The foreign debt will be refinanced over a 6-year period with 2 years of grace. As for the interest rates, Puppo said that they are higher than what Uruguay has been paying. Puppo stated that his negotiations in New York were positive.

Puppo said that Uruguay will obtain around $1.5 billion between refinancing, additional funds, the $410 million that Uruguay will receive from the IMF in the next few days and the reactivation of lines of credit that Economy and Finance Minister Walter Lusiardo is negotiating with the IDB and the World Bank in Washington.

The Central Bank chairman also stated that Uruguay had to sell more of its gold reserves in order to pay interest on the foreign debt and comply with other commitments. Puppo concluded by stating that the present exchange policy will be maintained. He also dismissed reports about the nationalization of foreign currency deposits and private banks as well as the banning of the sale of dollars to individuals.

2D SESSION OF COLORADO CONVENTION OPENS

PY092142 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Apr 83

[Excerpt] With an address given by Julio Maria Sanguinetti, secretary general of the National Executive Committee of the Colorado Party, the second meeting of the Colorado Party's convention was formally opened at noon today.

El Espectador, Radio Sport and the Cadena de Oro will now transmit from Colorado Party headquarters.

[Begin relay] We report that Sanguinetti gave his views regarding the activities carried out within the national political sector, on how the political dialogue should be implemented and also referred to various incidents that have occurred during the past few months within the political sector.

After honoring Dr Baltasar Brun in the opening address of this meeting of the convention, Sanguinetti spoke of the need to seek peaceful and conciliatory solutions, but with respect.

He indicated that we are fighting for democracy, but a democracy for all, from which no one is to be excluded. [end relay]

HAVANA CITES PRO-NICARAGUA PROTEST DEMONSTRATION

FL131804 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1509 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] A protest demonstration against U.S. intervention in Nicaragua and U.S. meddling in the internal affairs of other Central American nations has been held in the Mexican capital. Representatives of Mexican political, social and trade union organizations took part in the demonstration called by the Mexican Movement for Peace, Against Imperialism and for Solidarity Among Peoples. Orators in the meeting stressed that the intervention of Somozist bands in Nicaragua, organized by the United States, provides evidence of Yankee plans to spread the conflict throughout the Central American region. They expressed their readiness to provide the necessary assistance to the Nicaraguan people in their struggle against the aggressors and U.S. imperialism.

OFFICIAL ADDRESSES AGRARIAN REFORM PROBLEMS

PA132008 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Apr 83 pp 1-A, 21-A, 28-A

[Report by Armando Sepulveda Ibarra]

[Text] Cuautla, Mexico, 10 Apr -- After 67 years of agrarian reform, the federal government announced here today that "there is no more available [afectables] land," adding that due to the lack of land, jobs will have to be provided in the rural area to the more than 3 million peasants who are still demanding common lands. Otherwise, the areas of poverty in the cities will increase.

Addressing a ceremony commemorating the 64th anniversary of Emiliano Zapata's death, Salvador Robles Quintero, under secretary of planning and agrarian infrastructure at the Agrarian Reform Secretariat, explained that the presidential resolutions have benefitted nearly 3 million peasants. Meanwhile, he added, upon learning that there is no more chance of receiving land, another 2 million peasants have migrated to the cities in search of jobs. The official insisted that the agrarian reform is neither a historical cadaver nor a demagogic motto causing sterile conflicts among Mexicans. Its primary motto is no longer the struggle for ownership of land, but the achievement of the overall development of rural society, he explained. This not only means giving land to the true peasants; they must also be offered the necessary instruments to increase agricultural production and efficiency, the official indicated.

Robles Quintero warned, however, that fakes and cheaters must gradually disappear until they are totally eliminated, adding: "Let us harbor no doubt about this." He offered to guarantee the ownership of land and to fight to the very end against the corruption that fleeces the peasants. He said that the contradictions and mistakes made in the rural areas are paid for with increased imports and food price hikes. Self-sufficiency in supplying staples is the number one challenge to both the current and future administrations.

Reviewing the distributions made since 1916, the official said that there are 27,000 common-land parcels and communities containing 2.7 million peasants involving nearly 100 million hectares of land of various kinds: 1.2 million small owners have almost 70 million hectares, while 368,000 squatters [nacionaleros] and settlers [colonos] occupy 12 million hectares.

Robles Guintero stressed that "there is no more available land for mass distribution." He explained that "although the distribution has not yet concluded, not much remains." The agrarian reform's final goals remain the same: to improve the living standard of the peasant class and to strengthen our independence and national sovereignty, currently threatened by an insufficient production level of food and raw materials, the official said.

"This is especially important now that the new international division of labor and the activities of the food transnationals have managed to make peripheral [perifericos] countries under any ideology dependent on grain imports from the industrialized countries to satisfy their diets. Mexico does not accept this alleged historical fatality," he asserted.

At the ceremony, held at Plaza Revolucion del Sur and attended by Governor Lauro Ortega, Robles Quintero said that the existence of idle and unproductive land contradicts the nation's most genuine interest. According to the official, if this is to be corrected, we must look to the rural areas. At times of uncertainty, the peasants remain strong, and in the face of insidious and cowardly rumors, they set an example of creative hard work. While the craving for easy profit from speculation spreads, they continue to endure injustice, Robles Quintero said.

Elsewhere in his speech, he said that the economic, political and cultural recovery and transformation cannot take place behind the peasants' backs. He said that the new organization is geared toward production: With sufficient crops, landowners will obtain the desired social justice; they will strengthen their freedoms and will participate in an authentic democracy based on equality.

That Which Can Be Distributed Must Be Distributed

It is now a matter of distributing that which can be distributed, regulating in order to provide legal certainty, rationally organizing the rural producers and providing them with the productive elements, he commented.

Robles Quintero explained that the increase in production has been slower than the increase in population. This proven by the large numbers demanding land. "That has caused the food deficit and the decline in the production of agricultural raw materials." The official stressed that the revolutionary element now is not who distributes the most land, but who increases agricultural production so as to reduce the food deficit and improve the peasants' lot.

Deputy Juan Salgado Brito spoke earlier on behalf of the three branches of power in Morelos. Salgado Brito said that bureaucracy and corruption have curbed rural development and sidetracked the agrarian reform. Alberto Ramos Zurita also addressed the event on behalf of the Zapatista Front. The event was also attended by the children of the leader of the south: Ana Maria, Mateo and Diego Zapata.

NEW COMMUNICATIONS GROUP UNHAPPY WITH REGIME

PA131635 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 10 Apr 83 p 4

[By Manuel Menesses]

[Text] Over 50 organizations from various parts of the country created here yesterday the Permanent Committee of Mass Communications [FPCP]

In its charter document, they noted that today, when the structural crisis is speeding the deterioration of the traditional mass media organizations, and "when both the government and Televisa [Mexican television station] seem to share the same social communication plan," the right of information should be confirmed as the right to be informed and to give information; in other words, as the right to mass information.

After pointing out that the Constitution of the republic and the republic's laws, regulations, decrees and agreements on social communication matters guarantee spoken, written and audio-visual expression to all social sectors, the document said that in view of the above, "there is no reason to prevent the free expression of those sectors that uphold different national communication plans."

The committee document also pointed out that critical communications media are viewed by the present administration as "dangerous inquirers into an economic model that is claimed to be unquestionable," and affirmed that the little critical space granted to dissidents and the expression of the material and human misery that prevails in the country are seen by this government as much more dangerous than before.

The lengthy assembly was attended by delegates from journalists associations of several states of the country -- the Union of Democratic Journalists, the Mexican Association of Communication Investigators, the Union of Radio Education Workers and the Independent Union of Editorial Uno Workers -- as well as by university labor leaders, university authorities and officials from various political and labor organizations.

Investigator Fatima Fernandez Christlieb submitted a report to the assembly on the communications policies adopted during the early months of the Miguel de la Madrid administration. The document indicated that it is evident that the measures put into effect "seek greater control of information so that, among other things, the Miguel de la Madrid plan may appear to be the only valid way out of the crisis."

After noting the exclusion of the issue of social communications from the popular consultation for the realization of the National Development Plan, the document pointed out that the national radio newscast system entered into effect on 15 March, "giving the Government Secretariat the power to censure, unify and interpret national information on the radio stations with larger audiences and on primetime newscasts."

"In the same month, the document added, the schedules and transmission channels of the political parties were modified without previous consultation in order to reduce their audiences. On 23 March, the document continued, the National Autonomous University of Mexico ratified and expanded its cooperation and alliance agreement with Televisa for the alleged purpose of increasing cultural programs. On the next day, the federal government announced the reorganization of the social communications system in an effort to achieve greater technical and administrative efficiency."

The most important part of the FPCP assembly document noted that throughout that reorganization process, "there is no mention of the commercial media. The monopolistic structure remains untouched, and no formulas for participation of the social organizations are established." It indicated that an example that the communications media are conceived as a means of political control and not as educational or cultural instruments is the fact that now director of Radio Education is now appointed by the Government Secretariat, not by the Education Secretariat.

The committee's constituent organizations approved the objective of creating the Mexican Agency for the People's Communication, the Center of Independent Production, the National Association of Alternative Means of Communication, as well as support for radio stations at the democratic universities and the coordination of their efforts. Similarly, they invited new organizations to join so as to turn the committee into an instrument of analysis, information and mobilization in which all those who wish to demand, defend and implement "the unpostponable right to mass communication may participate."

Mauro Jimeniz Lazcano, the director of information and public relations of the Government Secretariat, was represented by Ramon Casonova Diaz and Justino Rios Mendez, the latter a member of the Radio Institute.

In the evening, the delegates of over 50 organizations elected the 12 who will comprise the committee's joint secretariat. These included Jorge Melendez of the Union of Democratic Journalists, Froyland Rascon of Radio Educacion, Jose Alvarez Icaza of Cencos [not further identified]; Leopoldo de Gyves, the mayor of Juchitan; Pilar Noriega of the National Front of Democratic Lawyers; Luis del Toro of the Guerrero Autonomous University; and Javier Contreras of Cencos.

FOREIGN MINISTERS END CENTRAL AMERICAN TOUR

PA140148 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo and Panamian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado returned this afternoon at 1700 from their tour of Central American countries. They had visited the countries as members of the Contadora Group mission that also included Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda who went home from Guatemala, as did Venezeulan Foreign Minister Jose Velasco Zambrano. All the ministers talked to area leaders regarding possible solutions to the Central American crisis.

Upon their arrival in Panama Amado and Lloreda issued a communique that states: Ordered by their respective presidents and acting within the spirit of the Contadora Declaration issued on 9 January 1983, the foreign ministers of Colombia, Panama, Mexico and Venezuela carried out joint visits to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala on 12 and 13 April. The ministers had been invited by the governments of those countries.

In Costa Rica they met with President Luis Alberto Monge and Foreign Minister Fernando Volio. In Nicaragua they met with Daniel Ortego Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. In El Salvador they talked with President Alvaro Magana and Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena. In Honduras they met with President Roberto Suazo Cordova and Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica. In Guatemala they met with President Efrain Rios Montt and Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola. Other high-ranking authorities from the countries visited also participated in these meetings.

The Contadora Group foreign ministers made these visits in view of the worsening of the conflicts in Central America that have seriously endangered the region's peace. This first stage of consultations provided useful opinions to draft a plan that includes the various viewpoints. The four foreign ministers gathered the political opinions of the governments of the countries visited in an attempt to achieve a constructive dialogue intended to reduce the tensions and to establish the bases for true and lasting peace in the region.

They therefore believed it appropriate to continue these consultations to guarantee efficient communication and to encourage understanding among the parties involved.

Foreign Ministers Lloreda Caicedo and Amado were approached by the local and foreign press regarding the achievements of their trip. Among other things, Foreign Minister Lloreda Caicedo said:

[Begin recording] [Lloreda Caicedo] Regarding the meetings we have held since yesterday, meetings that took us to the five Central American countries, there is a communique that we issued in Guatemala this morning in which we summarize these results. We still can't anticipate future actions because such actions must come out of consultations with our respective governments.

[Question] Mr Minister, why are contacts being made at the government- and foreign-minister levels and not at the level of the guerrilla groups in Central America?

[Answer] The countries with which we have relations have governments that represent their respective countries and naturally our mission was to talk with them.

[Question] Mr Minister, when will the consultations be held?

[Answer] We still have not decided on a date but we have made the decision to hold a second stage of consultations. The timing of this second stage will be decided on in the next few days.

[Question] Can it be said that the outcome of this tour was positive?

[Answer] Positive and I believe instructive. [end recording]

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto arrived in Panama this morning. He is waiting for Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo with whom he will travel to Colombia tonight. Televisora Nacional got an exclusive statement from the Colombian Foreign Minister regarding this:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Minister, will the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister go to Colombia with you?

[Answer] The Nicaraguan foreign minister's official visit to Colombia was scheduled several weeks ago; he was scheduled to visit around this time. Because of the meetings that we held with the Central American countries, his trip had to be postponed so that he could be in Managua during our visit yesterday. Under these circumstances, I told him that I would be pleased if he would travel with me today so that he could make the visit that had already been scheduled.

[Question] Can we therefore say that the visit has nothing to do with the mission that you have just concluded?

[Answer] It was a simple coincidence and a courtesy. Thank you. [end recording]

In conclusion, Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado made comments to the press in which he agreed with the theory of Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, that the armed conflict on the Central American isthmus endangers Panama. Here are Minister Amado's remarks: [Begin recording] [Question] Mr Minister, is there optimism after this trip?

[Answer] I would say so; I would say that there is optimism. The countries' interest in finding solutions to the conflicts is marked and noticeable in all the talks we held. The important and essential thing is that the final objective they all have is peaceful coexistence. However, there are certain rough spots that have to be worked on. There are certain conditions that have to be viewed as delicate subjects because of the conflicts that have been produced by a series of conditions and circumstances that have developed during the past few years on the Central American isthmus. But overall I do feel optimistic and I beleive that there are good possibilities. I beleive that the work ahead will be very difficult. It will be a task of coordination, communication, dialogue, understanding and tolerance but with the efforts of the distinguished foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela and with the help of the Central American foreign ministers this stage can be overcome.

[Question] What is the next step that will be taken by the Contadora Group foreign ministers?

[Answer] At present we are working on a final evaluation of all the information and the criteria that we gathered on this trip. It was a very intensive trip, which began on Monday -- rather, very early on Tuesday -- and ended with the last working meeeting in Tegucigalpa very late last night. This morning we ended with a trip to Guatemala.

There has not yet been time to put all the information together and draft the final conclusions and observations but definitely, as soon as that phase is concluded, we should continue with the conclusions, because there are some very important considerations that should be explored in depth and there should be a little more information on both sides. We will work on this next week.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, with what will this report deal; bilateral negotiations or multilateral dialogue? There are two divisions on this.

[Answer] I think there is a little of everything. There are certain topics that must definitely be the subject of multilateral negotiations. I could point out, for example, the matter of the economic concepts related to a Central American Common Market. That could not deal with effectively without the participation of the five Central American countries.

Other matters are bilateral in nature. In fact, some progress has already been made in come aspects of this. An example are the meetings that are already underway between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, which are overcoming some of the difficulties between them in the area of their relations, control of the borders and traffic on the San Juan River. There is no absolute definition of a single system. I feel that there must be a combination and concurrence of the two options.

[Question] Is a direct meeting between Honduras and Nicaragua possible?

[Answer] In our talks with both countries, we noted the willingness to talk. However, more exploration and additional consultations are still necessary.

[Question] How have Washington and Havana reacted?

[Answer] I have no knowledge of the reaction of Washington and Havana.

[Question] The date for the foreign ministers meeting?

[Answer] No date has been proposed. At present we are carrying out final consultations on this.

[Question] But it will be held soon?

[Answer] If it is possible to hold additional consultations and not a formal meeting of all the foreign ministers, but rather a working, consultation session.

[Question] Have Nicaragua and Honduras expressed a desire or an intention to yield?

[Answer] I think that in general everyone is well aware of his responsibility and is interested in finding a solution to the problems. I believe that everyone is in a position to yield a little and unite efforts to bring about peaceful coexistence in Central America.

[Question] Mr Minister, it was said that one decision of the foreign ministers' meetings here in Panama is that foreign military advisers should leave Central America. What did Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador say about that position?

[Answer] If you are referring to the meetings of the four foreign ministers, we did not discuss any specific topic that is the prerogative of the countries concerned. We have been very respectful of the internal decisions of each nation. We have discussed the situation in overall, general terms, in terms of what we can do to improve the climate, the atmosphere, so that these countries can sit down to negotiate; but out of respect for the nations that we visited, we did not meddle in any details that have to be the private, authentic decision of those countries.

[Question] Mr Minister, you spoke of rough spots. Was this just an expression or are there difficulties to be smoothed over?

[Answer] I think that the difficulties are due to a lack of communication. In the course of things, at certain moments, certain normal lines have been broken in the flow of communications in both directions. Such channels should exist between friendly nations and these difficulties must be overcome. We must reach the point that these communications are constant.

Eventually, most decisions and solutions must result from the efforts of the nations involved in each particular case. I repeat that we would not be in a position, nor would we have either the basis of judgment or the ability or any other condition that would permit us to impose solutions and working mechanisms. We simply have to help the parties sit down together in an appropriate climate without the pressures that normally exist in such situations of conflict. We must allow them to seek their own solutions.

[Question] Mr Minister, will Panama be the venue of a meeting of Central American foreign ministers?

[Answer] Panama has always been very willing to cooperate in such matters, as have Colombia, Venezuela and Mexico. Any of these four countries or other nations that the five Central American countries consider appropriate could be the seat of subsequent meetings.

[Question] Mr Minister, yesterday the U.S. Government called on Moscow and Havana to end their intervention in Central America. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] I am not familiar with the communique. Regrettably, because I was on a trip, I did not have the opportunity to review it. I believe that any call for the conditions of respect for the sovereign rights of every country to be preserved is important. I am not familiar with the particular details to which the U.S. Government refers, and therefore it would be very difficult for me to express an opinion.

[Question] Mr Minister, could there be an end to the verbal war that is currently underway among the Central American countries?

[Answer] I think that is important. I think that would be a part of the effort to create the appropriate atmosphere for the countries to sit down to negotiate.

[Question] What has the tour's main achievement been?

[Answer] The tour's main achievement has been to point out the parties' interest in overcoming these difficult situations and to seek the working mechanisms that will permit them to preserve their peaceful coexistence, the little peace that exists at present, because there is a situation in which the peace of the entire region is imperiled.

Of course, every country has its viewpoint. Every country defends its conditions, its interests, its rights and one has to be very aware that we cannot place possible solutions in very simplistic terms. The matter is complicated; it is complex. A constant effort will have to be made in the coming weeks and we will be working with the greatest pleasure, with the greatest affection, to promote the desired situation.

[Question] Is there any real political desire to achieve a peaceful dialogue, a peaceful agreement?

[Answer] I dare say that there is such political desire.

[Question] Did you find that there is support for the Contadora Group, for the Contadora Group's resolutions in the countries that were visited?

[Answer] Yes, in general the countries agree with the principles that were outlined in the Contadora Declaration to the effect that dialogue should prevail. In fact, that declaration -- and this is an appropriate time to mention this -- emphasizes both regional and bilateral negotiations. In general terms, the countries agree that this might be a working mechanism. However, it is necessary to coordinate which issues would be bilateral and which would be regional.

[Question] Mr Minister, Mr Enders said that the situation in Nicaragua was a threat to his interests here in Panama. Do you have an opinion on this subject?

[Answer] No, no particular opinion. I believe that the situation of violence in the area is a threat to all the countries in the Central American region and, of course, in the Caribbean area. Panama would be no exception. We have constantly maintained that our country should be neutral, that the natural resources belonging to Panama as a result of its topographical configuration and its geographical location should be at the service of the international community without distinctions of political ideology, without conditions or differences of any kind. In this regard, we always fear that a violent situation in the Central American area could affect Panama as it could affect many nations in Central America and the Caribbean. For this reason, we want to continue working to bring about peaceful coexistence. [end recording]

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO STOPS ENROUTE TO COLOMBIA

PA132023 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1954 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Panama City, 13 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto today made a technical stopover in Panama City enroute to Bogota, Colombia, where he will hold talks at the highest level.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister made no statement about his mission, but diplomatic sources believe that the trip is related to the tour that Foreign Ministers Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico, Jose Alberto Zambrano of Venezuela, Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo of Colombia and Juan Jose Amado of Panama are making through the Central American countries.

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUA'S SERGIO RAMIREZ TO VISIT 14 APRIL

PA130411 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Costa Rican Vice President Alberto Fait Lizano and [Nicaraguan Junta member Sergio] Ramirez Mercado will meet Thursday. Fait Lizano confirmed today that a new contact between the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan governments will take place Thursday in San Jose. Justice Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez and Commerce Minister Marco Antonio Lopez Aguero will participate in addition to Vice President Fait Lizano. Topics related to detente and the Central American Common Market [CACM] are expected to be discussed at this meeting, which will be a continuation of the one held by cabinet ministers of the two countries in San Juan del Sur.

According to reports, the meeting between the delegates of the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan governments will be held [words indistinct] our capital. The representatives of our northern neighbor will travel in a special plane. They will stay a few hours in our capital and then return to Nicaragua. This new contact is expected to open a path toward complete detente between the two countries and a solution to the difficulties within the CACM, one of whose main routes to the north is Nicaragua.

EL SALVADOR

GARCIA DENIES U.S. PRESSURING HIM TO RESIGN

PA140034 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2258 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] San Salvador, 13 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia admitted today that he has resigned "five or six times" but, he added, the nation's president accepted none of his resignations.

Speaking to foreign journalists, General Garcia said that he presented his resignation for the first time 4 days after he was appointed to the Defense Ministry post on 15 October 1979 following the triumph of the "military youth" action that overthrew the government of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero. Garcia spoke with foreign journalists who went to him to report on the various problems they are facing regarding their work in El Salvador. He told them he has presented his resignation "five or six times, sometimes in writing and other times orally."

The defense minister insisted that the United States has never pressured him to leave the job. "The day that happens, I'll be the first to say so," Garcia added. Garcia admitted, however, that he has received external pressure on the subject of the human rights situation in El Salvador. General Garcia refused to name any possible successors in case he leaves his post. He said that his replacement could be any military man having "the rank, the wish, the capacity and the desire to serve the people."

General Garcia also admitted that some armed forces members, whom he declined to identify, do not guarantee army unity. Garcia spoke in favor of "opposing opinions, which must be respected as long as they are not used negatively."

Foreign journalists requested the meeting in view of the situation resulting from the arrest of Thomas J. Western and Joanne Ambrose Newton, two U.S. reporters, and from an intensification of a local campaign criticizing the work of journalists.

The journalists gave General Garcia a letter in which they note, among other things, that there is uncertainty because of the limitations, especially in the communications broadcasting areas, they face in practicing their profession in the country. The letter also states pleasure over the favorable and quick outcome of the arrest of their two U.S. colleagues.

The defense minister admitted that the armed forces do not meet the requirements journalists demand to practice their profession because of lack of means and experience. The general promised to make every effort to avoid any restrictions on the journalists' work and asked them to contact him on future occasions.

PAPER SAYS FMLN BRINGS IN ARMS, SANDINISTS

PA131539 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Apr 83 p 2

[Excerpts] The armed forces have charged that the FMLN has brought a large number of weapons and Sandinist elements into the country in a new attempt to attack the towns of eastern El Salvador. Sources report that the terrorists have been entering through the fords on the Goascaran River, but note that the army is ready for any kind of attack on the defenseless civilians in that area.

It has been confirmed that the self-styled terrorist front is staging its clandestine activities at night, while resting during the day. It is also noted that it stages attacks on private property.

The armed forces are on the alert to counter the continuous attacks, "since the subversives, as a last-resort effort to achieve their unsuccessful objectives, are now trying to destroy the civilian population, which has never supported them."

NICARAGUA LIFTS SALVADOR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

PA131532 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 12 Apr 83 pp 3, 35

[Text] The Sandinist regime has lifted its restrictions on the entry into and departure from Nicaragua by Salvadorans.

Over the weekend, the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry sent protest notes to the UN and OAS human rights commissions and all of the Central American foreign ministries in regard to this abusive action against Salvadorans. The notes stressed the violation of the right of all to move about in any country if one's documents are in order. It has been reported that in flagrant violation of the human rights charter, the Sandinists acted Wednesday to limit the entry and exit of Salvadoran citizens, confiscating their passports and in some cases subjecting them to interrogation.

Diplomatic circles have looked favorably upon the Foreign Ministry's action, which forced the Sandinist regime to normalize travel by Salvadorans. The Foreign Ministry reported this morning that it received notification from the Nicaraguan authorities on Saturday afternoon that the measure had been lifted.

ARMY REPORTS HEAVY FIGHTING ON COASTAL HIGHWAY

PA131522 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 11 Apr 83 p 15

[Excerpts] There was heavy fighting today between insurgents and members of Military Detachment No 4 and national guardsmen on the coastal highway in the area of the turnoff to Jiquilisco and on the dirt road from Jiquilisco to El Triunfo, in Usulutan Department. Military sources said that over the weekend a group of about 350 men attacked military positions, but the subversives were repelled after sustaining a large number of casualties.

It was reported that vehicular traffic through that sector has been suspended since the leftists burned several of the vehicles that were moving in the area early today.

GUERRILLAS CAUSE HEAVY DAMAGE IN SAN MIGUEL

PA131605 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1430 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Here is last-minute news that has been duly confirmed. As we reported at the end of our newscast last night, subversives staged an incursion into the outskirts of San Miguel, the country's third most important city. The shooting, lasting some 2 hours and 25 minutes, took place in various areas of the eastern Salvadoran city. This morning, civilian and military sources reported huge losses resulting from the attack on San Miguel by the rebels.

Reports indicate that the installations of the Transportation Cooperative Association, Acotran, located at km 138 on the road to La Union were attacked by the rebels. They also attacked the Urban Development and Architecture Directorate, DUA, the Inazucar [National Sugar Institute] and the Highway Directorate.

In the attack on Acotran, the subversives used explosives to destroy six buses and a pickup truck used to transport personnel from San Miguel to Acotran, members of the cooperative told this station this morning. At the DUA facility, no less than 20 vehicles, mostly dumptrucks and tractors used for road construction, were also destroyed by explosive charges. After destroying the 20 vehicles, the subversives blew up the DUA administrative offices. At the sugarmill, the machinery for processing sugarcane was destroyed and the installation was heavily damaged. Construction equipment belonging to the Highway Directorate was destroyed as well.

So far, it is estimated that the damage from the attacks amounts to more than 3 million colones.

According to the information, a small group of watchmen was in the area from 2000 to 2200, when the subversives staged their attack on San Miguel. Several watchmen at the Inazucar sugarmill were tied up and taken from the area before the explosive charges were set. No one was injured there, according to both civilian and military authorities.

Operations in search of the guerrillas were begun this morning. A small combing operation is being staged on the coastal highway in the area of the turnoff to El Brazo, where the guerrillas have been interrupting vehicular traffic. Meanwhile, traffic continues to be suspended on the coastal highway from Zacatecoluca to (Usurca), due to the unstable situation in that southern part of the country.

UNGO ACCUSES U.S. AT PARIS PRESS CONFERENCE

NC131917 Paris AFP in English 1850 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, April 13 (AFP) -- El Salvador's leftist opposition leaders visiting here today accused the United States of turning their country into a "North American protectorate" and called for new international initiatives to put an end to the civil war.

At a press conference, Salvador Democratic Front leader Guillermo Ungo and Farabundo Marti Guerrilla Front Commander Salvador Samayoa accused Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Pakistan, and the United States of providing weapons for the Salvadoran Army. The leftist leaders also accused the U.S. of turning Honduras into a springboard for destabilizing efforts in Central America.

They backed efforts by Mexico, Columbia, Venezuela, Panama, and Costa Rica, as well as France and Spain, to bring about a negotiated solution to the conflict. Mr Ungo, elected last week as vice-president of the Socialist International, will hold talks here with government advisors and officials of France's Socialist and Communist parties.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Attack Near Jucuaran

PA121355 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front reports that on 0100 on 11 April, combined forces of our revolutionary army and people's militias attacked enemy positions on the (Palo Marin) Bridge located on the road to Jucuaran. After heavy fighting that lasted until 0310, the enemy abandoned its positions and sustained many casualties. We suffered no casualties and we withdrew in complete order and with a high fighting morale. The operation was dedicated to the memory of Commander Ana Maria. Commander Melida Anaya Montes, we swear we will win! Commander (Pedro) sent this report from the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front.

Modesto Ramirez Front Actions

PA121402 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Here is a military report from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front: At 0600 on 11 April, FMLN forces clashed with paramilitary units near (Tecolutepeque) canton in the place known as (El Mango). Here are the results: Three dead and an unspecified number of wounded were inflicted on the dictatorship. The rest of the enemy fled in disorder. Three Czechoslovak rifles, an M-3, 1,000 7.62-mm cartridges and many uniforms were recovered. A meeting was held with the townspeople who cooperated with our companeros.

At 0730, an enemy military unit was ambushed 3 km from the La Guara post on the road to Suchitoto. Two enemy vehicles were destroyed, three men were killed and (?eight) were seriously wounded. As a reply to this action, the enemy shelled La Bermuda and Calle Nueva. The battles ended at 0930. At 1030, new fighting broke out in Palo Grande where an enemy unit was ambushed. The enemy sustained many wounded, including a lieutenant named (Merino). Several sections of this unit were ambushed and broke up in El Roble, on Cerro Guazapa.

Anastasio Aquino Front

PA121533 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Here is a report from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, San Vicente Department:

At 1145 on 9 April, our units began an attack on the enemy post in (Pajales), located 4 km northwest of Zacatecoluca, La Paz Department. The civil defense command was seized at 0100 on 11 April. In this action, our units captured 17 prisoners of the civil defense. They were turned over to the population of (Pajales). Three members of the enemy were killed and the civil defense command building was destroyed. We recovered the following war materiel: 15 rifles, including 10 Czechoslovak rifles, 2 FAL rifles, 2 M-2 carbines, 1 G-3 rifle, and large amounts of explosives and ammunition. Our forces withdrew after they held a political meeting with the townspeople and turned over the prisoners.

In coordination with this action on 9 April, units of the people's militia simultaneously sabotaged powerlines causing a power outage in Zacatecoluca and surrounding areas, the Joboa sugar mill and the CEL [Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission] substation. We suffered one slightly wounded. With this action, our forces pay homage to our heroic companera, Commander Ana Maria. The operation was led by Companero (Jesus). It was reported by Commander (Eli) in San Vicente Department.

Protest at U.S. Embassy

PA130438 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Several Panamanian organizations have staged protests over the assassination of Commander Melida Anaya Montes by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA. The Panamanian Committee of Solidarity with the Salvadoran People [Comite Panameno de Solidarided con el Pueblo de El Salvador] has reported that students, the leadership of the teachers trade union [Direccion Sindical del Magisterio] and other people's organizations expressed their repudiation in front of the U.S. and Honduran embassies, where they accused the CIA of murdering the FMLN commander.

GUATEMALA

CONTADORA GROUP MINISTERS ARRIVE FOR TALKS

PA131613 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1559 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Guatemala, 13 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The foreign ministers who comprise the "Contadora Group" arrived this morning in Guatemala, the last leg of their rapid 48-hour tour of Central America. Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt and Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola received them at the Air Force airport.

Upon arriving in the country, the foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama met privately with the Gautemalan president and his foreign minister at the airport's military facilities. From there they went on to the National Palace. The foreign ministers declined to make any statement as they were leaving the airport, but Castillo Arriola announced that a joint news conference would be held after the talks to report on their results.

Meeting With Rios Montt

PA131858 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1835 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- At the end of their lightning tour of Central America, the four foreign ministers of the "Contadora Group" said in Guatemala that "there is a healthy political desire to try to face the region's problems."

"It is still too early to speak of conclusions, but it is true that this trip has given rise to elements of dialogue," Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda said. The foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Venezuela arrived in Guatemala today and held a 90-minute meeting with President Efrain Rios Montt.

After talking briefly to journalists on leaving the National Palace, the foreign ministers went to the Venezuelan Embassy, where an official in the Mexican delegation said that in his opinion the foreign ministers would be leaving for their countries to analyze the talks they held in the five nations of the area and would renew telephone contacts some days later.

For his part, Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Loreda said that one "cannot yet talk of a date for a meeting of Central American foreign ministers and observers." He added that the dialogues that are currently underway call for "very delicate diplomacy, which might be foiled by voicing premature solutions."

Juan Jose Amado, his Panamanian counterpart described the climate for the consultations as "good," adding that the opening of a dialogue between Nicaragua and Honduras is being contemplated. "Nicaragua is in a good frame of mind; so is Honduras," Amado commented, while answering questions about the crisis between these two countries.

Venezuela's Jose Alberto Zambrano said that the quick tour of the five regional countries met with "active stances" to try to solve Central America's current problems on the part of the various governments. "The evaluations begin now. We must think calmly," Zambrano said, stressing that they had met with a "good political disposition" on the part of the various governments.

Meanwhile, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola described the meeting with the president as a review by the four foreign ministers who comprise the "Contadora Group," during which they talked to Rios Montt about "consultations and principles." According to Castillo Arriola, the president "hardly spoke at all."

Group Concludes Tour

PA132050 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2024 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the "Contadora Group" foreign ministers ended here their 48-hour tour through five Central American countries. The tour was aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the problems of the region.

The foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia and Panama, Jose Alberto Zambrano, Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo and Juan Jose Amado, respectively, as well as Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, left at 1915 GMT (1315 local time) in two planes; a Venezuelan Air Force plane and a Colombian Air Force craft. ACAN-EFE has been informed that each of the foreign ministers will go home to evaluate separately the results of the tour.

'TERRORISTS' INTERRUPT STATIONS' BROADCASTS

PA132156 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] At least five times today, Monday, terrorists overrode the frequencies of several radio stations heard nationwide. The first station overridden was the official station TGW which was broadcasting the government educational program known as "The Civic Moment" from San Pedro Zacatepequez in San Marcos Department. The other station overridden was Radio Nuevo Mundo. The noon and afternoon newscasts were repeatedly interrupted. A man who said he belonged to the subversive group ORPA [Armed People's Revolutionary Organization] claimed credit for today's terrorist attack in Morazan Square on behalf of that organization.

Interior Minister Ricardo Mendez Ruiz believes it likely that the terrorists will resume their activities, as they have now done, in an effort to make their presence felt. [Begin recording] [Mendez Ruiz] We had been expecting something like this and we expect more. This is a logical reaction to the amnesty law. So far, some 100 people have accepted amnesty in the departments of Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, Quiche and Huehuetenango. There is no doubt that the amnesty has been affecting them very much and that they had to take an action such as this in order to keep themselves active.

[Question] Colonel, will the resumption of these terrorist actions force the government to reinstate the state of siege?

[Answer] Not at all, not at all. The fact that the state of siege has been lifted does not mean that subversion no longer exists or that terrorist actions will no longer occur. Terrorism will continue to exist along with situations like the one this morning. That, however, does not mean that because of such an occurrence, we will deprive citizens of their individual rights. Not at all. [end recording]

Deputy Government Minister Aroldo Cabrera Enriquez also discussed the government's position after this morning's incident: [Begin Cabrera Enriquez recording] Basically, we want to stress the fact that for the government [words indistinct] these incidents are important, for they prove that the problem of violence and subversion is still with us. We are committed to attacking their center of subversion. The government's security forces are carrying out all thenecessary investigations to capture those responsible for such a loathsome crime. [words indistinct] [end recording]

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA ADDRESSES CONTADORA GROUP MINISTERS

PA131757 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Speech delivered by Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica at a reception held in the Honduras Maya Hotel for the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and Mexico on 12 April -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Messrs deputy foreign ministers of Colombia and Honduras, messrs ambassadors of Colombia, Venezuela, Panama and Mexico, members of the various delegations, messrs presidents and representatives of the political parties -- the National Party of Honduras, the Innovation and Unity Party, the Honduran Christian Democratic Party and the Liberal Party of Honduras.

Also, messrs members of the Honduran Foreign Secretariat, messrs ministers: I wish to express the deep satisfaction of the Honduran Government and people at your visit to our country today, while carrying out a peaceful mission in this region, in whose drama social injustice, economic neglect and political oppression have been, among others, determinant factors in the overflow of violence and fratricidal passions.

Messrs ministers, I say this to stress the fact that the peace mission that brought you to Central America and Honduras today fills us with great satisfaction. As I have already said, that mission is valuable in achieving -- let us hope in the near future -- honorable and lasting peace for Central America.

Honduras is undergoing a process to consolidate democracy. It is struggling to strengthen those pluralist and representative institutions that derive from the people's sovereignty. With the same conviction, the Honduran Government and people are determined to defend, with great integrity, their democratic way of life and of government. The Honduran Government, the government of constitutional and democratic President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, has also been clear about its policy, which is characterized by international peace and cooperation.

To conclude, I wish to reiterate the peaceful position and the determination to fight for peace that marks the democratic and constitutional government of President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova. I would also like to express my best wishes for the success of your efforts, which speak so highly of you. It is truly very honorable to endeavor to make peace and freedom the fate of present humanity and the heritage of future humanity. With this spirit, I now toast you, messrs ministers.

Colombia's Lloreda Responds

PA131834 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Speech delivered by Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo as spokesman for the "Contadora Group" -- the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and Mexico -- on 12 April at a reception held at the Honduras Maya Hotel in Tegucigalpa, Honduras -- recorded]

[Text] Mr Minister, messrs representatives of political parties, dear friends, officials of the Honduran Government, ladies and gentlemen: I am very pleased to be sharing this table tonight here in Tegucigalpa, the capital of a Central American country that, as Foreign Minister Paz Barnica mentioned here, is trying to consolidate its democratic institutions and that is making enormous efforts to transform the people's will into solutions to the economic and social problems that have long affected the implementation of justice in our Latin American countries.

We are here on a mission of peace. It has always been a difficult task to try to calm emotions and to concentrate man's effort not on disagreement and conflict, but on meditation and calm consideration of the future.

We do not and need not possess some special truths that were revealed to us in some fashion. We are here to offer and not to demand. We are here to offer our cooperation in a task that history demands and that conviction moves us to carry out. We believe that Latin America has the capacity to solve its own problems, seriously and reasonably.

There is a need at this moment for great solidarity, so that we do not unconsciously fall into plans laid by others, simply because we lack our own. After what we have accomplished today, we are sure that, though conditions are not ideal, they are favorable, so that our efforts and those that we must make in the near future, may fall on fertile ground and thus bear fruit that will benefit all of our peoples.

The foreign ministers of what has been called the Contadora Group bring respectful and cordial greetings to the government and people of Honduras, which we convey on behalf of our presidents Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, Ricardo de la Espriella of Panama, Luis Herrera Campins of Venezuela and Belisario Betancur of Colombia, who was kind enough to receive us today for an exchange of views on our mission.

This evening, when Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica, as spokesman of this government and a friend in long and difficult diplomatic tasks, welcomes us and refers to our great forefathers, I cannot but respond with affection and refer to those same forefathers in asking that, in this crucial hour for our America, we be solidly united; for only in this way can we be strong.

NICARAGUA

REGIONAL MEETING ON PALESTINE 12-15 APRIL

PA101320 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Apr 83

[Excerpt] So far, 20 government delegations have confirmed their participation in the Latin American preparatory meeting on Palestine and International Law to be held in Managua 12-15 April. This is the first regional meeting on this subject. Delegates will analyze the Palestinian problem and matters related to international law as part of a series of meetings to be held in the next few months in Africa, Asia and Europe prior to an international conference that will take place in Paris in August.

Alejandro Bendana, deputy foreign policy director for multilateral affairs at the Foreign Ministry, said that the purpose of this meeting in Managua is to obtain support from international public opinion for the Palestinian people's struggle for liberty and self-determination. Bendana added that representatives from Latin American governments, extraregional missions and delegates from over 10 UN international organizations will participate in the next international meeting.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga will head the Nicaraguan delegation to the Latin American meeting. The other delegates will be Leonte Herdocia, Alejandro Bendana and Ernesto Aloma, who is chief of the Department of Nonaligned Countries and the Middle East at the Foreign Ministry.

Marwan Tahbub, PLO ambassador in Managua, said: The regional preparatory meeting on Palestine and international law to be held in Managua next week complies with one of the UN resolutions approved in 1982. This meeting is aimed at obtaining governmental and nongovernmental support for the Palestinian cause. It will reflect worldwide UN rejection of Israel's aggressive policy, with U.S. support, against our people. He also referred to the importance of this meeting for the Palestinian people.

HAVANA NOTES AREA TOUR OF CONTADORA GROUP

PA131525 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] The foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Venezuela held a meeting on Tuesday in Managua with Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Juan Jose Amado of Panama, Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico, Rodrigo Lloreda of Colombia, and Jose Alberto Zambrano of Venezuela arrived in the Nicaraguan capital from Costa Rica, where they had met with President Luis Alberto Monge and other high-ranking leaders.

The foreign ministers who compose the so-called Contadora Group began a tour on Tuesday -- which also includes Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala -- in an effort to mediate in the Central American conflict. This tour is the result of a prior meeting in Panama City, where the foreign ministers of these four countries agreed to take immediate steps based on the principles of self-determination and nonintervention to solve the area conflict peacefully.

NONALIGNED NUCLEAR ENERGY MEETING BEGINS

FL122025 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The second meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's coordinating countries in the field of peaceful use of nuclear energy has opened in Havana's Palace of Conventions. According to the consensus achieved at the Seventh Nonaligned Movement Summit held in New Delhi, this meeting should consider the position of member countries on the UN conference for the development of international cooperation on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

(S. Kasim), representing the presidency of the Nonaligned Movement which passed to India since the seventh summit, conveyed to the participants the wishes for success sent by Indira Ghandi, prime minister of India and chairperson of the movement. (Kasim) said that Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's book, given to participants of the seventh summit, provides the rules of conduct for this field and this meeting should work meticulously on that idea.

Fidel Castro Ruz, executive secretary of Cuba's Commission on Nuclear Energy and of the Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs [secretario ejecutivo de la Comision y de la Secretaria para Asuntos Nucleares de Cuba], was elected chairman of the event by consensus. He promised the delegates he would act in accordance with the trust placed in him.

Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Cuban Commission on Nuclear Energy, delivered an important speech at the opening session. In his speech he charged that the United States and other capitalist industrialized nations obstruct the development of the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the so-called Third World, denying the people the resources need for their survival. He stressed that the path of nuclear energy is a valid and essential alternative for countries lacking energy resources and which, on top of that, are being severely hit by the crisis created by the capitalist system.

Jose Ramon Fernandez gave a warm welcome to the meeting's participants on behalf of the people and Government of Cuba and said: [Begin Fernandez recording] The path of nuclear energy, as a solution to the generation of electric power, is today and in the future a valid alternative available to countries with scarce energy resources.

In this undertaking, the role of mutual and nondiscriminatory cooperation is of great importance. We are certain that we will approach this and act as members of a movement of countries which manifests itself as an instrument of peace, national liberation and economic development. We are certain that we are going to work relentlessly to achieve strong and cohesive cooperation between our countries. The reality facing us calls for actions of great stature and those of us called upon to carry them out will know how to fulfill the duty and mission entrusted to us. [end recording]

Cuban Program Cited

FL132045 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The nonaligned meeting regarding the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is continuing its sessions at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. It is attended by 29 countries, including coordinators in the field of peaceful use of nuclear energy and members of the Nonaligned Movement, and four observers.

Cuba took the initiative of convening this meeting which was approved at the seventh summit meeting of the Nonaligned Movement, held in New Delhi. Our country is among the pioneers of the movement in the effort of developing the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

The building of our first electronuclear plant is currently being undertaken in Cienfuegos Province with two reactors with Soviet technology. With aid from CEMA we are expanding and modernizing the Nuclear Research Institute which will be equipped with a research reactor. There are programs and agreements which allow us to train qualified personnel and acquire experience in the safe use of nuclear power plants.

Cuba maintains relations of cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations and CEMA; and since 1976 it has been a member of the Unified Institute for Nuclear Research [Instituto Unificado de Investigaciones Nucleares] of (Duna) in the Soviet Union. All these circumstances have led to the holding of this meeting in Havana and to the designation of Cuba to preside over the event.

AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN SIGNED ON FOREIGN DEBT

FL081134 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] In Madrid, Cuba and Spain have signed an intergovernmental agreement for the restructuring of the Cuban debt to that country. The ceremony took place within the multilateral framework defined by the agreement signed by Cuba and the group of representatives of creditor countries in Paris on 1 March of this year.

The ceremony was held in a cordial atmosphere at the main offices of the Spanish firm Import Credits Insurance Company. Cuban Ambassador Oscar Garcia, who signed the document, said he wanted to ratify once more the good and historic relations existing between the two countries.

Both sides agreed in highly praising the hard and complex work developed by the Cuban and Spanish specialists in an atmosphere of confidence. The agreement insures the continuation of efforts aimed at further developing and deepening commercial relations between the two countries.

COUNTRY SLOWED BY TRANSPORTATION STRIKE

TL121635 Bridgetown CANA in English 1624 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, April 12, CANA-REUTER -- Urban transport came to a virtual halt in the Dominican Republic today as private bus drivers went on strike to protest against high petrol prices, labour sources said. The government had recently reduced petrol prices, but 35 drivers' unions, backed by two opposition political parties, are demanding that prices be halved to 1.25 dollars a gallon.

The strike, declared illegal by the government, began at six a.m. and radio reports said that rocks were thrown at some buses which ignored the strike call. The government organised an emergency fleet of 300 buses driven by soldiers and police, but thousands of people could not get to work, the sources said.

Violence Reported

FL131635 Bridgetown CANA in English 1548 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, April 13, CANA-REUTER -- A student was killed and more than 100 people arrested during violent demonstrations in the Dominican Republic yesterday during a private bus drivers strike, police said today.

The drivers' union called off the strike today after the government agreed to discuss their complaints of high petrol prices, union officials said.

Police said a 28-year-old student was shot dead when police tried to break up a demonstration in the northeastern city of San Francisco de Macoris. A crowd hurled rocks at the hospital where the student was taken and later carried his body in a torch procession to an undertaker's.

Yesterday's 24-hour strike was called by 35 drivers unions and two opposition parties when the government only cut the price of petrol by 27 cents instead of halving it to 1.25 dollars as demanded by the drivers.

President Calls for Peace

FL131645 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] President Salvador Jorge Blanco said yesterday that the strike called by several transportation organizations constituted a challenge to the tranquility, peace and democratic way of life of the Dominican people. Similarly, the chief executive called on all the Dominican people not to resort to violence. Now, speaking as your president, I beg you and fervently call on all the Dominican people, on the sector which launched the strike in violation of the law, on those who justly oppose it, including those who may be indifferent to these times of (?upheaval) being experienced in the Dominican Republic, not to resort to violence, Jorge Blanco said.

The president of the republic toured various areas of the capital, including the terminal of Guisqueya Stadium, site of several driver organizations, where he delivered a speech asking the drivers to call off the strike. [Passage indistinct] The president said the strikers not only flaunted the law, but also failed to show respect and courtesy for the government administration, and for the president of the republic in particular.

ANTIGUA'S BIRD DEFENDS GRENADA AIRPORT PROJECT

FL132251 Bridgetown CANA in English 2123 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 13, CANA -- Antigua and Barbuda today told the United States there was no evidence to support its assertions that a new airport being built in Grenada was for military purposes, and linked Washington's claim with a general tendency all round to see discord within the Caribbean Community and Common Market (Caricom).

The country's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Lester Bird, made the comments about the airport at the opening of a conference on industrial cooperation here among Caricom states.

Mr Bird called neither country by name, but said: "There is too great a tendency...from both within and outside the region, to see division and discord in Caricom. That is why perhaps one country external to the region could attempt to convey the impression that one of our members has some sinister motive in building an international airport, expecting us to endorse that statement." He added: "But...we know that the airport was as much an objective of the last government as itis for this one. We have no evidence that any military purpose is intended for the airport and we would be failing in our duty if we did not say so."

Washington has been upset with Grenada because of the left-wing policies pursued by the Maurice Bishop regime since gaining office with the March 1979 armed overthrow of Eric Gairy.

The U.S. has been using the ideological differences between Grenada and some of its Caricom partners as well as the issue of elections in the island to isolate the Bishop regime in the region.

It has charged that the 10,000 foot airport, being built at Point Salines on the southwestern tip of Grenada with international assistance, will be a base for the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The U.S. without much success, actively campaigned against Western countries giving aid to Grenada for the airport and, in recent times, the cold war between the countries has worsened because of caustic remarks by President Ronald Reagan against the 133-square mile island, which he claimed was a threat to U.S. security.

Grenada Government officials have said that the United States is fitting out a mercenary force to invade their country.

Mr Bird noted that there would be difficulties within Caricom, whether they surrounded restrictions to free trade "as much as they relate to countries which do not hold general elections." He went on: "We reserve the right to criticise each other in the event that such difficulties arise, but we will not do so at the behest of any outside agency or country regardless of ideology."

"For let there be no mistake, when the flirtations with ideological peers, whether they be of the left or right, are over, the Caricom group of countries will still depend upon each other for survival in economic and political terms", he said.

"Already, trade within Caricom has multiplied and expanded in a way that few would have anticipated, indicating that there is an unavoidable interdependence among our countries", Mr Bird said.

CARICOM DISCUSSES JAMAICA'S TIERED CURRENCY

FL132213 Bridgetown CANA in English 2045 GMT 13 Apr 83

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 13, CANA -- A Caribbean Community (Caricom) ministerial meeting on industrial cooperation opened here today, but was immediately sidetracked by a trade and payments wrangle that has created headaches for Caricom member states in the past three months.

The critical nature of the trade issues was initially broached by Caricom Deputy Secretary General Roderick Rainford when he said the conference was taking place "under the shadow of other troubling problems."

And when he spoke Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga declared that at this meeting "the shadow is one of greater substance than the reality."

"The centre of gravity has obviously shifted, there is a change of focus," said one senior minister after the opening speeches. Another added: "The shadow has overtaken the reality."

The crux of the issue has been Jamaica's January 10 introduction of a tiered currency exchange regime, which regional states argue has made most of their exports to this island significantly more expensive, and provided the Jamaican manufacturer with a competitive edge.

Retaliatory measures by Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, plus the fact that the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF) -- the main credit facility for trade within Caricom -- has reached its 100 million dollar (U.S.) limit, has brought regional trade to an almost standstill, and four ministers from Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and Antigua and Barbuda have been caucusing here over the past two days to find solutions.

Mr Seaga, going over statements that he and other governments have been making since the problems developed, outlined the rationale for the government's formalisation of the so-called parallel marketing system. He argued that the measures introduced in January would bring health to his country's economy and rebound to the benefit of the 12-member community.

"We are facing a problem of the Jamaican economy endeavouring to rally from a bout not just with recession but with depression over many years, attempting to revive its strength so that it can play its full and proper role within the community," the prime minister said. "I am not sure of the extent to which this has been fully recognised."

Outlining the depth of the Jamaican problem, Mr Seaga, who has been in office for two-and-a-half years, said that the economy during the decade of the 70's had lost 20 percent of its gross domestic product. The economy he recalled had shown eight years of negative growth, foreign exchange reserves dwindled, investment stagnated, capital left the country, and unemployment and inflation rocketed.

He said that to overcome the difficulties his government had embarked on a five-year structural economic and development programme to develop production and increase exports to extraregional states.

It was in this milieu that the administration decided to give exporters who sold outside the region an incentive of retaining 50 per cent of their foreign exchange earnings, which was transferrable on the parallel market.

But before the formalisation of the parallel system, what existed was a "street corner or black market," Mr Seaga said, so there was no mechanism for the recording of transaction in such funds.

Under the dual exchange rate system in operation here the official rate of 1.78 dollars J to one U.S. dollar is used only for essential imports, some approved payments and to purchase raw materials for export manufacturers. Mos Caricom imports fall under the more expensive parallel market rate, set daily by the commercial banks and which has ranged between 2.65 and 2.80 dollars J per U.S. dollar.

The Jamaican leader said that the system was misconstrued to be devised to give Jamaican exporters an advantage over their Caricom partners, but he contended that before the system was introduced Jamaican exporters were actually at a disadvantage against their Caricom partners on the home market.

The Jamaican exporter, he said, had -- when foreign exchange was unavailable in the official system -- purchased their raw materials on the informal parallel market, while Caricom exports to Jamaica came in at the official rate.

In an apparent swipe of business groups around the region that have attacked the Jamaican position, he declared: "It is fair to say that the Jamaican manufacturers did not voice any complaint about this disadvantage in public."

In looking at the issues, the prime minister said, the whole of Jamaica's trade with Caricom had to be put into perspective.

Last year when the island sold U.S. 82 million dollars worth of goods to the community with a six million dollar advantage, it was one of the few years that Jamaica had recorded a positive gain over its partners, he said. And 32 million dollars of last year's 76 million dollars worth of imports were at the official rate.

"Indeed, in the 10-year period of the Caricom system Jamaica ranks a 100 million dollar deficit in its trade with Caricom," Mr Seaga said.

The Barbados industry and commerce minister, Bernard St John, whose government decided to float its currency against the Jamaican currency after Kingston's action, told the meeting that it was becoming "abundantly clear that Caricom is important to each and every state in Caricom."

Like Mr Seaga, Mr St John was confident that problems in the 12-member community could be solved by rational dialogue, but he was clear about the problems that his country faced. Mr St John said Barbados had been forced to borrow U.S. 30 million dollars from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) because of a difficult liquidity situation while being owed U.S. 66 million dollars under the now-suspended Caricom clearing facility.

He stressed the need to overcome the present difficulties and for a refloating of the CMCF, probably with an infusion of capital from outside sources underwritten by regional governments.

Antigua and Barbuda's deputy prime minister, Lester Bird, who has been presenting the views of the Organisation of East Caribbean States, also referred to the difficulties, and like the others, was confident that a solution could be found. Said he: "We West Indians... love a little challenge. It makes to conquest a little sweeter.

"So to those who imagine that Caricom is fractured, that the integration movement is imperilled, I say still your voices and remember that West Indians do not lose test matches until the last ball is bowled."

But outside the conference hall most delegates admitted that the problems remained difficult, and said that Mr Seaga's presentation did not appear to provide Jamaica with the maneuverability necessary to address the issues as its Caricom partners would like.

Trinidad and Tobago, which has placed Caricom goods on its negative list under license, apparently has been pressing for a return to the status quo at the end of 1982, and for any increase in the rate for trading between Jamaica and Caricom to be negotiated from there.

Essentially, informed sources said, this would mean the setting of a special Caricom exchange rate which would lessen the differential between the cost of raw materials to the Jamaican exporter and the costs to Caricom partners to this island.

However, Kingston seems to be arguing that to get a special Caricom exchange rate would require it to negotiate with the IMF, with which it has a major balance of payments support agreement, or to find some creative way of doing this which could preclude such talks.

All agreed that no progress will be made in the industry talks unless the movement in the trade and payments issues.

Said Mr St John: "The trade and payments issues are central. I would be willing to stay here until they are resolved."

HAITI

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS HELD IN PART OF COUNTRY

FL111430 Bridgetown CANA in English 1251 GMT 11 Apr 83

[By Fred Brutus]

[Text] Gonaives, Haiti, April 11, CANA-REUTER -- Haitian officials tallied results today in Haiti's first municipal elections in 25 years amid charges of fraud in one major township.

Scattered electoral reports indicated 10 to 40 percent of eligible voters cast ballots yesterday to choose mayors and city councillors in three of Haiti's nine provinces. Voting appeared to be heavier in the countryside than in urban districts, electoral officials said. They said the overall turnout would have been higher if they had not had to turn away thousands of adults who, ignorant of electoral laws, failed to secure voting cards.

Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, has a literacy rate of under 15 per cent.

The number of competing states varied from five in this township of 130,000 to only two in the smaller of the 36 towns holding elections.

Although authorities said they would officially announce results next Sunday, a radio station here quoting local electoral officials said Richard Jeanoel had won the Gonaives mayoral race. Jeanoel is the uncle of Henri Claude Moise, the outgoing mayor of Gonaives, Haiti's fourth biggest city.

The radio broadcast prompted Ferdinand Latorue, a candidate the radio described as runner-up, to call for new elections, charging yesterday's poll had been rigged.

Yesterday's township elections in Artibonite, centre and northeast provinces are to be followed on May 10 by township polls in three other provinces. There has been no word on when elections will be held in Haiti's capital of Port-au-Prince.

The township elections are the first under the Duvalier family dynasty which celebrated a quarter century in the latter half of 1982. Haiti's current ruler, President-for-life, Jean-Claude Duvalier, inherited his post from his father Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier who died in 1971 after governing his Caribbean nation since 1957.

Irregularities Claimed

PA111340 Paris AFP in English 1244 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Port-au-Prince, Apr 11 (AFP) -- The first municipal elections in Haiti in over a half-century yesterday were marked by charges of voting irregularities as hundreds of local candidates vied for posts as magistrates and city councillors.

A total of 36 towns in three departments of this Caribbean island republic were involved in the vote, the first in a series to culminate next June with elections in the Haitian capital.

Accusations of rigging came from the town of Gonaives, Haiti's fourth largest, about 130 km (80 miles) north of here, where local candidate Ferdinand Latorue said voter cards were being distributed in polling places 48 hours after registration had officially ended. He also called on Haitian President Jean-Claude Duvalier to launch an inquiry into the actions of the former government-appointed mayor whom he accused of favoring a list that included the officials' close relatives.

There were no immediate returns from voting yesterday.

Analysts said the rigging charges were aimed at local candidates rather than the governments, which was not directly threatened by yesterday's vote.

The island's sole opposition group, the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, had abstained from running candidates in any of the towns voting yesterday.

Voter participation varied, with some towns reporting high rates of abstention while, in others voters appeared more motivated.

In Gonaives, with a population of 10,000, only 5,153 were said to have cast ballots yesterday.

The absence of municipal elections in 26 years, changes in methods of balloting, the island's economic difficulties and memories of the 1979 legislative elections with widespread charges of irregularities, were believed to have (?kept) many Haitians from the polls.

The opposition Haitian Christian Democratic Party is expected to field candidates in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second largest city, and Port-au-Prince later this pring.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PRIME MINISTER RESISTS TOBAGO SEPARATIST MOVE

FL111515 Bridgetown CANA in English 2135 GMT 9 Apr 83

[By Rudi Williams]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Trinidad, April 9, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister George Chambers says it would be unconstitutional for the opposition-controlled Tobago House of Assembly (THA) to terminate what it sees as the island's "present unjust union...with Trinidad."

Chambers tabled in the House of Representatives here yesterday correspondence he had sent to the THA chairman, opposition parliamentarian [word indistinct] Robinson, who had drawn his attention to a resolution passed by the body in February stating its desire to break away from Trinidad.

But the prime minister told Robinson: "The primary obligation of the government of any state must surely be to protect and preserve the territorial integrity of the state." "This obligation embraces any threat from without or within," the letter said.

The Robinson-led Democratic Action Congress (DAC), which controls the majority of seats in the THA as well as the two allocated to Tobago in the central Parliament here, has constantly accused the Port-of-Spain administration of neglecting the sister isle.

The THA had resolved "that this House of Assembly take all proper and necessary steps to terminate the present unjust union of Tobago with Trinidad and to secure either its replacement with a union based on terms and conditions acceptable to the authorized representatives of the people of Tobago or the full independence of Tobago with secure territorial boundaries."

The THA was established by a special act of parliament in November 1980 "for the purpose of making better provision (not only) for the administration of the island of Tobago but for the whole nation as well." Since the enactment of the Tobago legislature, the House has also been complaining constantly of being too tightly controlled in the running of its own affairs by the ruling People's National Movement (PNM) government here.

The prime minister said in the letter that the union of Trinidad and Tobago was a basic law of the republic, although it was based too on any 1887 United Kingdom act of Parliament. Trinidad and Tobago is a former British colony.

Chambers felt that Robinson, a lawyer, might share his view "that it is ultra-vires the Tobago House of Assembly" to "take all proper and necessary steps to terminate the present unjust union of Tobago with Trinidad."

The prime minister added: "I, for my part, certainly do not regard my electoral mandate as authorising me to terminate the union of Trinidad and Tobago.

"Parliament, of course, is sovereign and if it is the will of the people exercised through their elected representatives to terminate this union or to make any substitution therefore, it is competent for Parliament to do so."

The prime minister reiterated that he stood ready "to try and help resolve whatever problems, difficulties or misunderstanding there may have been between the central government and the (Tobago) House of Assembly."

Chambers concluded his letter to Robinson: "Given goodwill and reasonableness, a resolution of any outstanding differences should not prove impossible."

In his communication to the prime minister, Robinson had assured Mr Chambers that "our primary desire is to obtain a just settlement without the union of Trinidad and Tobago" [sentence as received]

He however added: "It is only if this proves impossible that we will consider ourselves forced, regretfully, to pursue the alternative of the independence of Tobago."

Robinson's letter to the prime minister was dated March 18, 1983.

COUNTRY HURT BY JAMAICA'S EXCHANGE SYSTEM

FL111530 Bridgetown CANA in English 2219 GMT 10 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 10, CANA --Jamaica's new controversial foreign exchange system is likely to worsen oil-rich Trinidad and Tobago's economic problems by causing local exporters to cut back on employment, the EXPRESS newspaper has said.

In an editorial, the paper said that after several "fat years" Trinidad and Tobago was "heading for the economic doldrums" because of lower oil prices, with a resulting lay-off of workers, as the economy contracted.

A reduction in exports to Jamaica because of that country's foreign exchange arrangement, it added, will "impose tough times on our manufacturers who no doubt will have to lay off workers and make an already difficult situation worse."

ECUADOR

HURTADO APPOINTS TWO NEW MINISTERS; CRISIS ENDS

PA131700 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1533 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Quito, 13 Apr (EFE) -- With the appointment of Yamil Mahuad as Labor Minister, Ecuadorean President Osvaldo Hurtado today overcame a minor cabinet crisis that involved three state ministers.

Mahuad, a 33-year-old lawyer, had been working as the manager of the National Company for Vital Products, ENPROVIT, since August 1981. He will replace Vladimiro Alvarez, who has been appointed government and justice minister, replacing Galo Garcia.

The other cabinet change was Jose Augusto Bermeo, who replaces Orlando Alcivar as the minister of industries, commerce and integration.

The reorganization leaves a cabinet composed of four members of President Hurtado's Christian Democratic Party and eight independent members. Two of the ministers -- defense and foreign relations -- are professionals who specialized in those areas.

SURINAME

BOUTERSE ACCUSED OF PARTICIPATING IN 'MASSACRE'

PA121847 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1625 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The Hague, 12 Apr (DPA) -- Former Surinamese President Chin-A-Sen said here today that Colonel Daysi Bouterse, head of the leftist military junta in Suriname personally took part in the 8 December massacre in which 15 members of the opposition were murdered.

Chin-A-Sen said that he has reports from "very important witnesses" that Bouterse personally killed labor leader Cyrill Daal. He also said that Errol Alibux, current Surinamese prime minister, was involved in the massacre.

Some of the opposition members killed were lawyers, journalists and labor leaders.

According to the official government report, the 15 men tried to overthrow the government. They were arrested, and a few hours later "were fatally wounded while trying to escape," according to the military junta.

The Netherlands Government reacted indignantly to the bloodbath, and on the basis of "reliable information," doubts the official report.